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SOUVENIR

OF THE

SEMI-CENTENNIAL

OF THE

Freemasons - Illinois

Grand Royal Arch Chapter

OF ILLINOIS

CONTAINING A SKETCH OF CAPITULAR MASONRY IN ILLINOIS FROM ITS INTRODUCTION TO THE FIFTIETH CONVOCATION OF GRAND CHAPTER IN THE YEAR EIGHTEEN NINETY-NINE; BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES AND PORTRAITS OF DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF THE FRATERNITY DURING THAT PERIOD; AND AN ACCOUNT OF THE EXERCISES ATTENDING THE CELEBRATION HELD IN CONNECTION WITH THE

FIFTY-FIRST ANNUAL CONVOCATION

AT CHICAGO, OCTOBER TWENTY-FIVE AND TWENTY-SIX, NINETEEN HUNDRED

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A SKETCH OF CAPITULAR MASONRY IN ILLINOIS.

By GEORGE W. WARVELLE.

INTRODUCTION.

POSSIBLY the most profound of all the mysteries of Masonry is the origin of its legendary histories and esoteric liturgies,—that truly wonderful system of moral symbolism and allegorical teaching which we now denominate degrees. We know but little concerning them prior to the last half of the eighteenth century, and much of the knowledge that has come down to us from that period is, at best, but fragmentary tradition. The Masonic romancer has indeed essayed to depict in glowing colors the scenes and incidents that have marked the course of Masonry from primeval man to the present time, but under the piercing light of critical inquiry his pictures have dissolved like frost before the morning sun. The "Legend of the Craft," as preserved in the ancient charges, is probably the only authentic memorial we now possess which antedates the beginning of the year 1700, and this but faintly outlines a very few of the many symbolic allegories that vitalize the esoteric rituals of the Masonry of to-day. Nor have these remarks special reference to the high grades only; they apply to all alike, for the entire system of speculative Freemasonry, as now practiced, contemplates a progressive expansion of but one thought, and that is the sanctity and preservation of the Holy and Ineffable Name. Toward this pivotal principle gravitate all the degrees of Masonry of all rites and systems, and to the elucidation of the mysteries which encompass the subject are they all devoted. Inseparably connected by continuity of thought and design they bear internal evidence of a common origin, and from the meager historical data now at our command we are led to infer that they assumed their present shape about the middle of the eighteenth century.

At the time of the revival, in 1717, there is every reason to believe that there existed no degrees, as that term is now understood, and that the esoteric ceremonials were of the most simple and informal character.

The symbolism was crude and undeveloped and the philosophical teachings scarcely more than a suggestion. The fifty years that next ensued were marked by a restless and ever increasing activity. The schism of 1738 produced a keen rivalry that soon begat competition. The Scottish lodges abandoning their operative character entered the speculative field; Ireland did the same; and soon five grand lodges struggled for supremacy in the British Islands. Then it was that the simple legends that formed the basis of the early ceremonial were eagerly seized upon by the enthusiast, the visionary, and, not infrequently, by the schemer. Allegory and symbol pieced out the fragmentary traditions of the Ancient Craft, and imagination furnished historical evidence where the facts were wanting. Beyond the seas rites and systems arose like the exhalations of magic, and the fundamental ideas of primitive Masonry were expanded to the last stage of attenuation through the extended scale of degrees which in many cases were adopted. These years may well be called the period of the Masonic renaissance. A new impulse was imparted to the fraternity by the development and expansion of its old legends; an impulse that in many cases was made to serve the purposes of the charlatan and trickster, but in the end was productive of the highest good, and from the confused and ill-digested mass that marked this epoch have been evolved the great rites that now dominate the Masonic world.

* * *

With the exception of the three primary degrees of the Symbolic Lodge no degree in Masonry is so well known or widely diffused as that of the Royal Arch. When, where or how it originated is not definitely known, but the favorite theory of the students is, that it was fabricated by one Lawrence Dermott at or about the time of the so-called schism of the fraternity in England. This latter event occurred in the year 1738, and the first mention of the Royal Arch, so far as known, was in the year 1743. It was employed as an adjunct by both of the rival Grand Lodges of England and by them was introduced into the American Colonies, where it continued to be practiced in connection with craft lodges, the lodge warrant serving as a full authority for its conference upon candidates.* Until the latter part of the eighteenth century its government was that of the lodge, but about 1790 a separation commenced to take place. The convocations in which it was conferred were called Chapters, and certain detached degrees as well as new fabrications were about this time added to and included in the chapter jurisdiction. This was largely accomplished through the labors of Thomas Smith Webb, who may with propriety be styled the founder of the American Masonic system. From the fact that the Royal Arch and its subsidiary degrees are conferred in bodies called Chapters they have now come to be generally styled the Capitular Degrees.

* The oldest mention of the degree in the United States occurs in the minutes of Fredericksburg Lodge (Va.), under date of Dec. 22, 1753.

Prior to 1797 the Capitular degrees, in this country, were in a confused and ofttimes chaotic state. With no recognized form of government and no organic connection with each other, the few scattered chapters were without influence or power, and the Masters' Lodges continued to exercise their ancient prerogative of conferring the Royal Arch degree at their pleasure. But in October of this year, at the instigation of Webb, a convention of "committees" from chapters at Boston, Newburyport and Albany met at Boston and addressed a circular to all of the chapters within the States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont and New York, inviting them to send delegates to a convention to be held at the city of Hartford, Connecticut, the year following, for the purpose of organizing a Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons and establishing a constitution for the government and regulation of all chapters "that now are or may hereafter be erected within the said States." The convention was held, as proposed, on January 24, 1798, and an organization effected under the name "Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Northern States of America." In 1799 the word "General" was prefixed to the title of the body, and in 1806, on the extension of its territorial jurisdiction, the old title was abolished and in lieu thereof was adopted the name "General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America," which name it still retains. From this body has emanated nearly all of the State Grand Chapters* and all of the Royal Arch Masonry of the West, including that of Illinois.

* * *

With the re-establishment of the Grand Lodge in 1840 came also a desire for the cultivation of the Capitular degrees. Prior to this time the only bodies within the State were those of the Symbolic Lodge, and "high Masonry" of every description was practically unknown. On July 19, 1841, the first chapter of Royal Arch Masons was organized at the city of Springfield, by virtue of a dispensation from M. E. Comp. Joseph K. Stapleton, the Dep. Gen. Grand High Priest, and on September 17th following, at the triennial session of the General Grand Chapter, a charter was issued to same. Springfield Chapter, No. 1, remained in full possession of the entire State until July 2, 1844, when a dispensation was issued for the formation of a chapter at Chicago. The printed abstract of the transactions of the General Grand Chapter does not show that any charter was granted in pursuance of this dispensation, yet it would seem that on September 12, 1844, at the regular triennial session of that year, a charter did issue for a chapter at Chicago to be known as La Fayette, No. 2. At the succeeding triennial convocation, held in 1847, charters were granted for chapters to be known as Jacksonville, No. 3, Horeb, No. 4 (Henderson), Quincy, No. 5, and Shawneetown, No. 6. These were all of the charters granted by the General Grand Chapter for chapters within this State.

* Every grand chapter in the United States, except Pennsylvania and Virginia, descended from this parent body.

THE GRAND CHAPTER.

1850.

On April 9, 1850, in pursuance of a call issued by William B. Warren, a convention of representatives from all of the chartered chapters in the State, except Shawneetown, No. 6, assembled at the city of Springfield to concert measures for the formation of a Grand Chapter. The meeting was held under the authority of Willis Stewart of Louisville, Ky., G. G. K. of the General Grand Chapter, and the action of the convention was approved by that body at its triennial session in September of the same year.

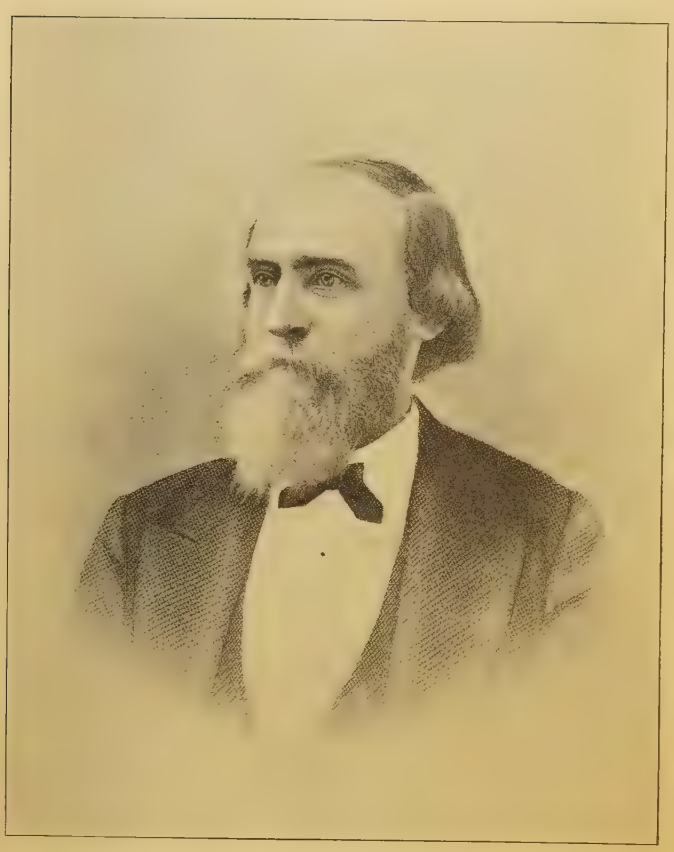
Comp. Warren was called to the chair and Comp. E. R. Roe was chosen secretary. It was then resolved that the convention do "now proceed to form a Grand Chapter for the State of Illinois," and the organization was completed by the election of the following officers:

W. B. Warren, Jacksonville.....G. H. P.
J. H. Holton, Quincy.....D. G. H. P.
J. V. Z. Blaney, Chicago.....G. K.
Peter Sweat, Peoria.....G. S.
Mason Brayman, Springfield.....G. Secy.
Thos. H. Campbell, Springfield.....G. Treas.
W. S. Hurst, Jacksonville.....G. M.

By resolution Shawneetown Chapter, upon signifying its assent to the proceedings, was permitted to come into Grand Chapter on equal terms with the other chapters; the By-Laws of the Grand Chapter of Ohio, with slight modifications, were adopted provisionally, and the matter of a constitution was deferred until the regular annual convocation. From the day of the convention until the present time Grand Chapter has met regularly in annual convocation. During the entire period it has enjoyed a career of uninterrupted prosperity and unbroken continuity, and the original six chapters that participated in the organization have been augmented by lawful increase until, at this writing, one hundred and eighty-five are borne upon the roll.

The regular annual convocation was held at Alton, in October of the same year (1850), with Wm. B. Warren presiding and the representatives of four chapters present. The first dispensation for a chapter under the new organization was issued to Comp. Wackerlee, and others, at Meredosia, Morgan county, but inasmuch as the General Grand Chapter, at the time of the formation of Grand Chapter, had dispensations in force in several localities in the State, the chapters so under dispensation were permitted to come in and receive a priority of number on the registry. The chapters availing themselves of this privilege were Peoria, No. 7, Howard, No. 8 (Upper Alton), Stapleton, No. 9 (Rushville), Union, No. 10 (Barry). Meredosia Chapter, therefore, although the first to be created by Grand Chapter, became No. 11, of the registry.

J. H. Holton was chosen Grand High Priest, and J. L. Anderson, Grand Secretary. Jacksonville was selected as the place of permanent location.



JAMES V. Z. BLANEY.

1851.

The convocation of 1851 was held at Jacksonville. The provisional constitution was continued in force for another year; the project of a representative fund was considered, and all chapters in the jurisdiction were ordered not to confer the degrees of Royal and Select Master.

J. V. Z. Blaney was elected G. H. P., and Harman G. Reynolds, Grand Secretary—a position he continued to occupy for many years afterwards.

1852.

At the convocation of 1852, held as before, at Jacksonville, neither one of the first three officers was present. A permanent constitution was adopted; a committee was appointed to procure a Charter of Incorporation from the State; a resolution was passed opposing the project, then being agitated, of the dissolution of the General Grand Chapter, and the order prohibiting the conferring of the degrees of Royal and Select Masters by the chapters of its obedience was reaffirmed. Levi Lusk was elected G. H. P.

By the terms of the Constitution, adopted at this session, the official name of Grand Chapter became "The Grand Royal Arch Chapter, of the State of Illinois," a name by which it still continues to be designated.

1853.

The convocation of 1853 was held at Jacksonville, M. E. Levi Lusk, presiding. By resolution R. A. Masons hailing from Pennsylvania were denied the privilege of visitation in any chapter in the jurisdiction. The reason for this singular action is not apparent in the record and the act itself was the subject of much unfavorable comment in other jurisdictions. It would seem that the question originally arose in La Fayette Chapter at Chicago, where a companion hailing from Pennsylvania was denied admission by the High Priest, on the ground that the work of Pennsylvania was essentially different from the work of the General Grand Chapter. An appeal was taken to the Grand High Priest, who sustained the decision. This in turn was approved by the Committee on Jurisprudence, with the result above indicated. For several years the leading spirits in Grand Chapter endeavored to defend their illiberal position by specious reasoning, until finally the force of popular sentiment compelled a repeal of the obnoxious resolution.

The "Act of Incorporation" was approved, and from thence hitherto the Grand Chapter has preserved its dual existence, acting both under its own Masonic constitution and that emanating from the State. The Act of Incorporation provided the same name for the aggregate body as the Constitution, to-wit: "The Grand Royal Arch Chapter, of the State of Illinois." It is a somewhat noticeable fact that neither the words "Mason" nor "Masonry" anywhere occur in the Act. Comp. M. J. Noyes, of Pittsfield, was elected G. H. P.

1854.

The convocation of 1854 was held at Jacksonville, with M. E. Michael J. Noyes presiding. The proceedings were mainly routine. A committee of seven was appointed "to revise the mode of conferring the Past Mas-

ter's degree," and "to report and exemplify the work as soon as possible." After wrestling with the subject for twenty-four hours the committee reported that they "had been unable to agree on any mode," and recommended the appointment of a committee of one who should "perfect himself in the work and report at the next Grand Convocation." Comp. Levi Lusk was selected as such committee.

Just why the "higher" bodies, with far less revenue than Grand Lodge, should so excel the latter in the matter of charitable disbursements is among the unsolved problems. A comparison of records, however, unmistakably discloses the fact. At this session (1854), with about $500 in the treasury, after making the usual appropriations, Grand Chapter gave $100 to relieve the necessities of the widow of a worthy Past Grand Master, and donated the sum of $50 annually toward the education of two of the orphan children of deceased companions. This generous policy still characterizes the body, as its liberal annual appropriations to the organized Masonic charities of the State abundantly testify.

Comp. Louis Watson, of Quincy, was elected G. H. P.

1855.

On September 27, 1855, the annual convocation was held at the Masonic Hall in Jacksonville, M. E. Louis Watson presiding.

Comp. Lusk, appointed at the convocation of 1854 as a committee to prepare a report on the mode of conferring the Past Master's degree, submitted a verbal report, "which was unanimously adopted and recommended as a proper mode of work to be adopted by the subordinate chapters." There are still chapters in this jurisdiction that possibly might profit by the report. Why was it not preserved?

The Grand Lodge, having then but recently taken measures for the establishment of a library, Grand Chapter offered to co-operate and bear part of the expense. Accordingly $50 was appropriated for such purpose.

Comp. Ira A. W. Buck, of Aurora, was elected G. H. P.

1856.

The annual convocation of 1856 was held at Jacksonville, M. E. Ira A. W. Buck presiding. Business routine and of temporary interest only.

By the terms of the Constitution the location of Grand Chapter was fixed at Jacksonville until the year 1856. This period having now expired an amendment to the Constitution became necessary. Accordingly such amendment was made by providing for an annual convocation "at the place of, and three days before, the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge." Thus the Grand Chapter became ambulatory and dependent upon the actions of another body. Inasmuch as Grand Chapter paid mileage and per-diem to representatives, the necessity for the move is not fully apparent; and while it was sought to be justified at the time on the score of convenience, yet this is shown by subsequent events to have been untrue. However, for a number of years this custom prevailed, all of the bodies meeting at the same place and about the same time.

Comp. Edward M. M. Clarke, of Rushville, was elected G. H. P.

1857.

The annual convocation of 1857 was held at Springfield, and immediately preceding the session of Grand Lodge, M. E. Comp. Edward M. M. Clarke, presiding. The embargo against the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania was raised, Grand Chapter having vindicated to its own satisfaction its "inherent and inalienable right to admit or exclude visitors" in its own discretion, and Royal Arch Masons from Pennsylvania were permitted "to visit upon the same terms as others, hailing from any sister jurisdiction." Another appropriation was made for the library, and the perusal of Masonic publications was recommended "as a means of disseminating Masonic intelligence."

The death of the beloved companion, Wm. A. Dickey, was duly commemorated.

The election resulted in the choice of James H. Hibbard as G. H. P., and he, together with the remaining officers, was installed by the retiring G. H. P. (Comp. Clarke) "with ease and elegance, and in an impressive manner."

* * *

The only incident to disturb the serenity of the session was caused by the presentation of a petition from Comp. J. W. Spalding and others, praying for the erection of a new chapter at Galesburg. The committee to which same was referred found that the usual application for a recommendation from the nearest chapter, in this case Horeb, No. 4, at Knoxville, was denied by such neighboring chapter, "upon pecuniary considerations alone," and recommended the granting of the prayer. Comp. H. G. Reynolds, the Grand Secretary, raised the question of jurisdiction of Grand Chapter over the subject, as a point of order. The G. H. P., Comp. Clarke, held the point well taken and decided that Grand Chapter had no jurisdiction over the matter, under Sec. 7, Art. II, of the General Grand Chapter Constitution. That the reader may judge for himself as to the correctness of this ruling the section in question is here given, viz.:

Sec. 7. No dispensation or charter for the institution of a new chapter of Royal Arch Masons shall be granted except upon the petition of nine regular Royal Arch Masons, which petition shall be accompanied with a certificate from the chapter nearest to the place where the new chapter is intended to be opened, vouching for the moral character and Masonic abilities of the petitioners, and recommending that a dispensation or charter be granted them.

Thereupon Comp. Spalding and twenty-seven others entered of record a protest and memorial, urging that the section only applied to those cases where the General Grand Chapter was exercising original and exclusive jurisdiction in States or Territories where no Grand Chapter existed; that same did not apply to State jurisdictions in the obedience of State Grand Chapters; wherefore they appealed from the decision of the M. E. Grand High Priest to the Grand Chapter. This produced a counter protest from Comp. Reynolds and the officers of Horeb Chapter, and was in turn followed by a second "memorial" by Comp. Spalding. The result was that the whole matter was referred to the incoming Grand High Priest (Comp. Hibbard), with power to act.

Acting under this power, Comp. Hibbard visited Galesburg and Knoxville (the towns are only five miles apart) and endeavored to effect a compromise alike honorable to both parties. In this he was signally unsuccessful. It would seem that by Horeb Chapter he was treated with much indignity; and when, in the exercise of his powers, original and delegated, he granted a dispensation for Galesburg Chapter, the companions of Horeb Chapter issued an incendiary and disloyal manifesto addressed to all of the chapters of the jurisdiction.

1858.

This was the situation when Grand Chapter met in its annual convocation in 1858. The Grand High Priest, M. E. James H. Hibbard, presented a report of his actions in the premises, as well as of the action of Horeb Chapter and certain of its officers and members. The Grand Chapter sustained Comp. Hibbard, censured Horeb Chapter, and appointed a committee to "recommend what action is necessary on the part of this Grand Chapter to sustain its dignity in the person of its chief officer." In the meantime Horeb Chapter, by its officers, presented a petition asking for an annulment of the dispensation to Galesburg Chapter and denying intentional disrespect towards Grand Chapter, "although they claimed and exercised the right of commenting upon the official acts of the Grand High Priest, and condemning those acts when they deemed them contrary to Masonic law, and subversive of the rights and privileges of Horeb Chapter." But Grand Chapter thought otherwise, for it confirmed the dispensation and granted a charter to Galesburg Chapter; required "full and ample retractions and apologies" to Comp. Hibbard from certain of the officers of Horeb Chapter, under pain of suspension, and directed the incoming G. H. P. to call "a full convocation of said Horeb Chapter at such a time as may suit his convenience and require that a suitable apology be made to this Grand Body and to M. E. Comp. Hibbard, for the insults and indignities aforesaid," and in case of a refusal to make such apologies the Grand High Priest was instructed to suspend the charter until the next annual meeting.

At the meeting of 1858 Comp. Nelson D. Elwood was elected G. H. P., —a position to which he was twice re-elected and which he continued to occupy until the day of his death in 1861.

Comp. Elwood, who is described as having been a man of most gentle and agreeable manner, proceeded to pour oil on the troubled waters of Knox county Masonry. He visited Knoxville; called a meeting of Horeb Chapter; presented the mandate of Grand Chapter, and in every way sought to close the breach that had been opened. But Horeb Chapter had made up its mind in advance as to what it should do in this event, and now reiterated all that it had said and refused to recede from what it had done. As a result the charter was arrested, and at the session of 1859 all of the rights and privileges of the chapter were declared forfeited to Grand Chapter; the members in attendance at the meeting called by the G. H. P. and voting to sustain the contumacious position then taken were suspended, and the members remaining loyal to Grand Chapter were accorded certificates of good standing to have the force and effect of

LOUIS WATSON.

dimits. So ended one of the most painful episodes in the history of Grand Chapter.

But the baneful root from whence sprang all this trouble has never been eradicated, either in this or the other branches of Masonry, and "pecuniary considerations only" still interfere with the interest and convenience of many brethern in many localities. If a Masonic body cannot support itself in any given locality without a "protective tariff," it is time for such institutions to close. The only object of a recommendation from the nearest body is, or should be, to advise the Grand body of the moral and Masonic character of the petitioners. The question as to the propriety of a charter should be the sole prerogative of the Grand body. But, as a matter of fact, the primal sin of Horeb Chapter has many times since been repeated and recommendations withheld for no other reason than that the grant of a charter to the petitioners might reduce the revenues of the body so refusing.

1859.

The General Grand Chapter met in Chicago in 1859, but the event does not seem to have been particularly noticed by Grand Chapter; nor does it appear that any official welcome was tendered to the distinguished visitors. This, however, was simply an oversight, and the Grand High Priest (Comp. Elwood), on his own responsibility, maintained the honor and reputation for hospitality of the Grand Chapter of Illinois.

Grand Chapter met as usual at Springfield, with M. E. Comp. Elwood presiding.

The definition of the clothing of a Royal Arch Mason as made by the General Grand Chapter was adopted; the constituent chapters were prohibited from conferring the degrees on non-affiliates, and another appropriation was made for the library.

M. E. Comp. Elwood was re-elected G. H. P.

1860.

At the eleventh annual convocation, held at Springfield, September 28, 1860, Comp. Wm. W. Mitchell, D. G. H. P., presided, a domestic affliction detaining the G. H. P. (Comp. Elwood) at his home; and while the Grand Chapter evinced its affection for its absent chief by re-electing him to the East, yet he was destined never again to preside in that body. Before another year had rolled around Comp. Elwood was gathered unto his fathers. The session presents no features of more than temporary interest.

1861.

At the convocation of 1861, held at Springfield, the chair was occupied by Comp. Wm. W. Mitchell, D. G. H. P., who paid a tribute of sorrow and respect to the memory of the late Comp. Elwood. The Civil war was then the paramount theme with all men, but the Acting G. H. P. decided that the matter had "become too formidable for us to meddle with it as a Society," and that the "discussion of the subject would embarrass us and be liable to misapprehension and misconstruction;" and Grand Chapter wisely concurred.

For the benefit of some of the latter-day representatives it may be here stated that the regular hour for convening was eight o'clock a. m.; and if the record is to be taken as importing verity the officers and representatives were always in their places at that time.

The accounts disclosed the fact that, either through insufficient revenue or over appropriation, the funds had fallen short, and that, after the necessary allowances, there would be a deficiency. The mileage and per-diem rate was then scaled twenty per cent and a corresponding reduction made in other "incidental expenses."

Comp. Wm. W. Mitchell was elected G. H. P.

1862.

At the convocation of 1862 Comp. Mitchell was absent from the State, and Comp. A. W. Blakesley occupied the East of the Sanctuary. The only subject of moment was the still depleted condition of the treasury. To remedy this $500 was raised by a loan, and a repetition of the heroic measures of the year preceding with respect to mileage and per-diem was had, the final result being the repeal of the law granting same. The printing of the proceedings was deferred until better times.

This year seems to mark the lowest ebb of Grand Chapter. This was due to the unsettled conditions of civil life, the prevalence of war, and the general absorption of public interest by the great political questions of the hour.

Comp. James H. Hibbard was elected G. H. P.

1863.

The convocation of 1863 opened brighter than its immediate predecessors. Several dispensations for new chapters had been issued, including one military chapter; and a petition for a further military chapter to be attached to Gen. Grierson's Cavalry Division was presented and the prayer denied.

It would seem that "substitutes" were permitted in those days, as a resolution prohibiting chapters from exalting less than "three genuine candidates at one and the same time" failed of passage.

The election resulted in the selection of Comp. H. W. Hubbard as G. H. P.

1864-5.

The year 1864 did not vary much from its immediate predecessors. The business of Grand Chapter was meager and strictly routine. The finances were so far recovered as to permit the payment of mileage and per-diem.

Comp. Wiley M. Egan was elected G. H. P.

The year 1865 exhibited a decided advance when the Grand Chapter assembled in its sixteenth annual convocation at Springfield. The war was now over and with a general resumption of the arts of peace came a corresponding increase of Masonic interest. The number of dispensations for new chapters greatly exceeded that of any former year in the history of Grand Chapter and throughout the jurisdiction there was evidence of a healthy growth of Royal Arch Masonry.

The business of the session was brief. The restored finances permitted the continuance of the payment of mileage and per-diem, and from the surplus an appropriation of one hundred dollars was made for the Lincoln Monument Association, a like sum for the Douglas Monument Association, and a like sum for the relief of Comp. A. G. Mackey, of South Carolina, "in consideration of his faithfulness to his Masonic obligations, his contributions, personal attention, medical services, and cordial sympathy in behalf of sick, wounded, and destitute Masons from Illinois, while prisoners at Charleston and beyond the reach of their brethren, relatives and friends."

On motion of Comp. J. M. Bailey, a special committee was appointed to prepare an appropriate burial service for the use of Royal Arch Masons, with instructions to report at the next annual. The committee did not report at the next annual, however, nor at any succeeding annual. Presumably Grand Chapter became convinced that a funeral service for a chapter was as unnecessary as it was unwise; that the simple yet beautiful ceremony for the interment of a Master Mason, where all distinctions of rank are abolished and all meet on the level, was all-sufficient for every need. At all events no report seems to have been called for and none was made.

Comp. L. L. Munn was elected G. H. P.

1866.

The year 1866 was one of continued prosperity. The number of exaltations greatly exceeded those of any previous year, while dispensations were issued for the creation of seventeen new chapters. The returns showed that a very large number of chapters were employing "substitutes," whereupon such practice was declared irregular and by resolution the conferring of the Royal Arch Degree "on less than three actual candidates at a time" was expressly forbidden. This continued to be the rule until 1899.

Comp. O. H. Miner was elected G. H. P.

1867.

The year 1867 was marked by a healthy growth both in membership and new chapters, eleven dispensations having been issued for the latter.

Up to this time no "work" had ever been formally adopted as the authorized lectures of Grand Chapter. The work then in use throughout the jurisdiction was substantially that prepared by a committee of the General Grand Chapter in 1859, but this work had never received the formal sanction even of the body for which it had been prepared. To secure a uniformity of ritual and substantial conformity to a standard, a committee, consisting of Comps. Hubbard, Munn, Egan, Miner and Pearson, was appointed "to determine the work of this Grand Chapter and prepare a manual of constitutions, laws, forms and ceremonies, for the use and guidance of the Chapters under its jurisdiction."

The returns this year disclosed the fact that certain chapters had omitted the P. M. degree in the advancement of candidates, conferring the M. E. immediately after that of M. M. It was presumed this had

been done only in cases where the candidate was already an actual Past Master, for at this time no Master could assume the chair of a symbolic lodge until he had been invested with the P. M. degree; but Grand Chapter decided to make the matter sure and by resolution all candidates were required to receive the P. M. degree before advancement to the M. E.

About this time there was much dissatisfaction throughout the country with respect to the General Grand Chapter. The matter came before Grand Chapter in a series of resolutions looking toward a release of allegiance and a severance of relations with the former body, but no action was taken. Two hundred dollars was donated to relieve an old and infirm brother. Chapters employing "substitutes" were again warned to desist, under penalty of forfeiture of charter.

Comp. G. W. Lininger was elected G. H. P.

1868.

The increase and general prosperity of the year 1868 was in advance of all prior years. Seventeen new chapters were organized under dispensation.

The Committee on "Work" submitted a report, which was adopted; and the lectures which were reported at that time remained in use as the standard ritual of the jurisdiction until the year 1899, when they were supplanted by the authorized ritual of the General Grand Chapter. Two weeks were devoted to the preparation of the report by the committee, during which time they examined "almost" every system of work then practiced in the State and of several other jurisdictions, the merits of which were discussed and considered. The result of their labors was the "Black-Hawk" lectures, a compilation which the committee confidently reported "will stand the test for all time." Of the zeal, learning and ability of the committee there can be no question, and of the three members who are still with us time has only deepened our respect; yet it is just among the possibilities that the system which they reported may be susceptible of improvement. The experience of two hundred years in the manufacture of rituals is not favorable to any system standing the test of twenty-five years, much less "for all time." At this writing (July, 1900) a new and untried system, promulgated by the General Grand Chapter, is in force, but whether it is superior to the old article that for thirty years did service in this jurisdiction, remains to be seen.

Subordinate Chapters were by resolution directed to "purge themselves of intemperance and profanity," under penalty of arrest of charter; candidates were "required" to pass an examination in open chapter before being advanced; petitioners were required to state whether they had ever before petitioned for the degrees; and the Grand Treasurer was directed to invest the surplus, $4,000, in Government bonds. How far these requirements have all been carried out those familiar with this branch of Masonry can tell. Thirty dollars was made the minimum sum for the degrees.

Comp. James H. Miles was elected G. H. P.

IRA A. W. BUCK.

1869.

The annual convocation of 1869 was held at Springfield. The year had been peaceful and fairly prosperous. The new work having been promulgated, the office of Grand Lecturer was left vacant as being, in the opinion of the G. H. P. "an unnecessary and expensive appendage," and that, "the published work being in the hands of the several High Priests throughout the jurisdiction," they would thus be enabled "to constitute themselves lecturers of their own Chapters, if they desired so to do." Apparently Grand Chapter held the same views, but only those who, like the writer, have spent long and weary hours pondering over that masterpiece of "Choctaw" composition known as the "History of the Black-Hawk War," are in position to state how thoroughly a High Priest may be his own lecturer after a perusal of that document. If the "old residents of the Military Reservation" had designed their work as a new and refined instrument of torture they could not have succeeded better.

About this time Grand Chapter commenced the practice, which it has since regularly observed, of giving to each of its presiding officers, on his retirement, an official jewel; the first to receive the honor of this decoration being the authors of the "History of the Black-Hawk War." After an unsuccessful search for a jewel indicative of past rank in Grand Chapter, the ordinary insignia of a P. H. P. of a Chapter was selected, to which was added a mitre, as a mark of increased honor. This was formally adopted as the official jewel of the jurisdiction, and has since remained in use.

Comp. John M. Pearson was elected G. H. P.

* * *

Grand Chapter had now been in existence twenty years. At the time of its organization Freemasonry was just beginning to resume its old time popularity; the "higher degrees" were commencing to attract notice, and the old anti-Masonic prejudice was dying out. The State was emerging from its pioneer condition and the people were emulous of the manners and customs of the Eastern States. All the conditions, therefore, were favorable to rapid and healthy growth. The few obstacles which intervened during the early years were soon overcome, and at the completion of its second decade Grand Chapter found itself in affluent circumstances with a large and constantly increasing list of constituents. There were at this time 138 chapters working under charter, with an aggregate membership of 7,581 Royal Arch Masons. The treasury showed a cash balance of $12,234.23, of which upwards of $4,000 was invested in Government bonds.

1870.

The twenty-first annual convocation was held at Chicago, October 7, 1870, and since then the annual session has been held each year in the same city.

Notwithstanding that the published work was in the hands of the High Priests of constituent chapters, it was still deemed necessary to have some "skilled workman" act as instructor, for we find Grand Chapter adopting the following:

Resolved, That the M. E. Grand High Priest appoint a Grand Inspector of the work in this jurisdiction for the ensuing year, with instructions to proceed from Chapter to Chapter, and correct errors in phraseology, the manner of communicating lectures, and to see that the mode of working be uniform in all the Chapters; for which service he shall be paid the sum of twelve hundred dollars, and his expenses shall be paid by the Grand Chapter.

It does not seem, however, that this resolution was acted upon, or that such "Inspector" was appointed.

About this time there was again much dissatisfaction with the methods, operation and practical workings of the General Grand Chapter. Several States, exclusive of those which seceded from the National Union, had during the decade preceding withdrawn their allegiance, and Illinois now seemed ready to join the disaffected sisterhood. A motion to withdraw from the alliance was presented, but failed to pass. The sentiment, however, was favorable to a dissolution of the General Grand, and in pursuance thereof the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Representatives of this M. E. Grand Chapter to the M. E. General Grand Chapter of the United States be instructed to advocate and vote for the dissolution of the same.

From the time of its organization until this year Grand Chapter had been a satellite of Grand Lodge, meeting immediately before or after that body and always at the same place. The time consumed by the two bodies, as well as those which also met in conjunction with them, was greater than many of the representatives cared to devote to the purpose. It was also thought that a more complete disassociation would be beneficial to both bodies in many ways; accordingly it was decided to hold the annual convocation toward the end of the month instead of at the beginning, as had been the custom theretofore, and the "first Thursday after the fourth Tuesday in October" was the day selected. This provision has ever since continued in force.

Comp. Augustus A. Murray was elected G. H. P.

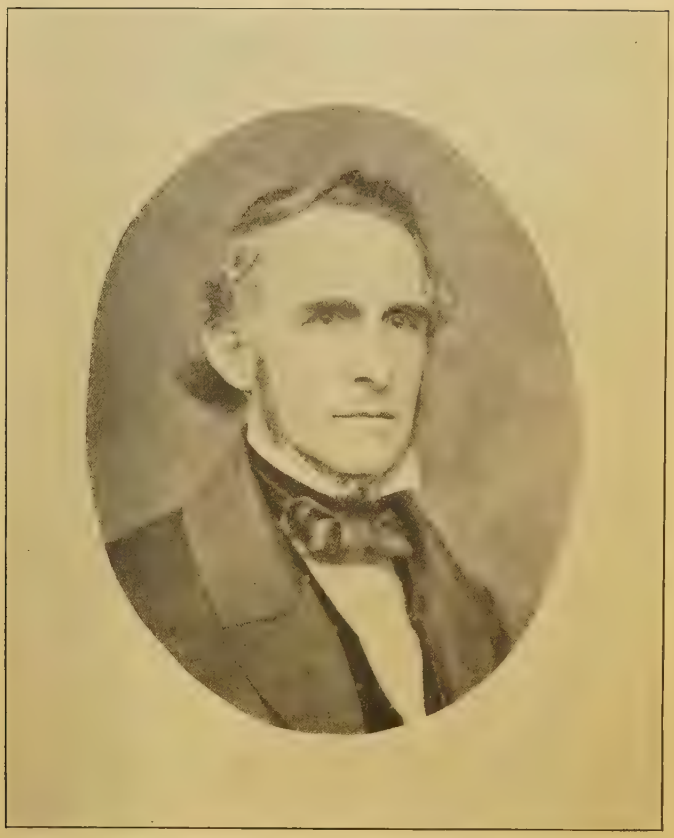
1871.

The convocation of 1871 presents nothing of special permanent interest. The representatives to the General Grand Chapter disregarded their instructions when they attended that body and became convinced that it was a good thing to keep same intact; to all of which Grand Chapter assented.

Comp. James A. Hawley was elected G. H. P.

* * *

Immediately after the close of the annual session occurred the famous "Chicago Fire." To relieve the distress occasioned by that event the G. H. P. (Comp. Hawley) called upon the craft to bring forward their offer-



E. M. M. CLARKE.

ings and at the same time appointed a committee, consisting of Comps. W. M. Egan, James H. Miles and R. H. Foss, to receive and disburse the contributions sent in. The report of this committee showed total receipts of $3,404.30. The money, or such of it as was deemed necessary, was employed in the assistance of worthy Royal Arch Masons.

1872.

The convocation of 1872 was the first held under the rule providing for a later date than had previously been the custom. The transactions were routine and of temporary importance only; $500 was appropriated "to purchase suitable jewels and regalia." At the convocation of 1871 a committee on lectures was appointed, but with no specific definition of duties disclosed of record. Evidently the committee found nothing to do, for at this session it presented the following report and was discharged:

Your Committee on Lectures, appointed at the last Convocation, have given the subject such consideration as their opportunities would allow, and respectfully report that they find the subject one fraught with many difficulties, and that in their opinion, with the work now promulgated in this jurisdiction, and the monitors published by Eminent Companions, there really exists no pressing need of any system of lectures more than we now have, and recommend no action in the case, and asked to be discharged from any further consideration of the subject.

Comp. A. W. Blakesley was elected G. H. P.

1873.

The year 1873 found the chapters in a prosperous and healthy condition, but nothing transpired to engage the historian's pen and the year closed in peace. The proceedings of the annual convocation were strictly routine.

Comp. Geo. E. Lounsbury was elected G. H. P.

1874.

The convocation of 1874 marked the twenty-fifth year of the organized existence of Grand Chapter. During this period it had grown from feeble infancy to lusty youth, with no set-backs or other depressing incidents to mar its symmetrical development. Peace and prosperity had been its attendants, and as a result the returns showed 152 active chapters, with a total membership of 10,430.

Wm. A. J. Delancey was elected G. H. P.

1875-6.

The convocation of 1875 presented nothing of special interest at this time. Comp. Haswell C. Clarke was elected G. H. P. He was succeeded at the convocation of 1876 by Comp. Arthur R. H. Atkins.

1877.

At the convocation of 1877 Grand Chapter was again confronted with a deficit. For several years in fact the expenses had exceeded the receipts and a reduction in taxation had brought the income to a point where it failed to meet expenses. To remedy this condition of affairs the per-capita tax was increased and a loan of $1,500 negotiated to tide

over until the next harvest. A proposition to charter chapters to work in the German language was considered and rejected. The present division of the jurisdiction into districts was made and assigned to the Grand officers.

During this year occurred the famous "merger" of the Council degrees. This consisted practically of a dispensation from the Grand Council to the constituent chapters of the Grand Chapter to organize councils and confer the degrees. The constitution of Grand Chapter was so amended as to permit of this, and the new order of things was accomplished in a very easy and simple manner. As this episode forms a part of the history of the Grand Council the subject will not be further considered in this connection.

Comp. James C. McMurty was elected G. H. P.

1878.

The only special feature of the convocation of 1878 was the legislation necessary to carry out in a constitutional manner the conferring of the Council degrees under the authority of Grand Chapter.

Comp. John D. Hamilton was elected G. H. P.

1879-80.

The year 1879 was one of peace and apparently of prosperity. The proceedings were strictly routine.

Comp. Samuel W. Waddle was elected G. H. P.

The reports of the officers at the session of 1880 displayed a gratifying condition of harmony throughout the jurisdiction, with no cause of grievance of a sufficiently serious character to require the attention of Grand Chapter. Comps. L. R. Jerome and Henry G. Perry were admitted to "honorary" membership. Both of these worthies have since passed "beyond the veils," venerable with years and long service. The question of "honorary" membership in a representative body is one which must be left to the jurists of the craft to determine; but these companions, the only ones ever thus honored, were received in pursuance of a law of the body. At all events Grand Chapter was not without precedent, for Grand Lodge upon one occasion had done the same thing.

A resolution was introduced to discontinue the practice of granting testimonial jewels to retiring officers, and on being put to passage was adopted; but before the session closed the representatives relented, repealed the resolution, and presented to Comp. Waddle on retirement the usual testimonial of "a beautiful Past Grand High Priest's Jewel." At this session was inaugurated the initial legislation giving to the G. H. P. a salary which was fixed at $100. The sum has since been increased to $400; but, in view of the time and labor now demanded from the presiding officer, even this sum is scarcely adequate.

Comp. Silas O. Vaughan was elected G. H. P.

* * *

The question as to the value or expediency of Cryptic consolidation was now again being discussed. The plan had not worked as well as

had been anticipated, nor had it been adopted in many parts of the country. During this year a new element of strength had been added to the Council by the formation of a league of Grand Councils, known as the General Grand Council, and pressure was being brought to bear upon the merging Grand Chapters to discontinue their further protectorate over the Cryptic degrees. The principal reason advanced by the promoters of the merger movement was, its economy in obviating the expense of maintaining the Cryptic organizations in councils and Grand Councils; but while this may have been an important factor of the movement in the State where it originated it was harldy worthy of serious consideration in Illinois. Nor had the plan worked well merely from the "preservative" point of view, for the degrees, having no very responsible management, were becoming lost sight of in the chapters, and so the leaders began to suggest the propriety of a return to the old ways.

1881.

The convocation of 1881 found the general condition of Capitular Masonry throughout the State more vigorous and healthy than at any time since the organization of Grand Chapter. There were now 171 constituent chapters on the rolls and the majority seemed to be doing well. The present rule limiting the commissions of Grand Representatives near other Grand Chapters to three years from date of issue was established.

The matter of relinquishment of control of the Council degrees was presented, and it was:

Resolved, That a Committee of five be appointed by this Grand Chapter to confer with a like Committee from the Grand Council as to the best disposition to be made of the Council degrees, and that they report to this Grand Chapter at the next Annual Convocation.

Comp. John P. Norvell was elected G. H. P.

1882.

At the convocation of 1882 a communication was received from the Grand Council asking Grand Chapter to take such steps as it might deem necessary to recommit the degrees of Royal and Select Master to their original custody. At the same time the special committee raised by the resolution of 1881 reported back that they had carefully considered the matter referred to them in conference with a like committee appointed by the Grand Council; that it was the earnest desire of the Grand Council to again resume control of the degrees, and in furtherance of such desire the committee recommended the repeal of such parts of the Constitution as should leave it in the same condition as it was in the year 1877. The practical effect of the proposed amendment would be to eliminate all reference to the Council degrees. The committee further recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That on and after January 1, 1883, the Chapters of this jurisdiction cease to confer the Council degrees, and that the Grand Council be requested to take such action in reference thereto as they may deem proper, and that the Grand High Priest issue his edict to that effect.

The report was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, which approved the recommendations of the special committee, and Grand Chapter concurred.

A resolution was offered by Comp. E. C. Pace directed to the Committee on Jurisprudence and inquiring by what authority the esoteric work of the lodge is used by the chapters; but the committee, after cogitating upon the matter for a year decided that the subject was so inseparably connected with the "legends of the misty past" that they could throw no light upon it.

Comp. Samuel Shannon was elected G. H. P.

1883.

The session of 1883 presents nothing of importance. The last links that bound the Council degrees were severed and William L. Orr was elected G. H. P.

1884.

At the convocation of 1884 the G. H. P. (Comp. Orr) recommended,

"That this Grand Chapter select a competent companion to prepare a history of this Grand Chapter, from the date of its organization to the present time. I deem it a matter of necessity and great importance, as many of those who were conversant with the organization and early history of this body have passed away, and ere long all will be gone. It will be of great value and benefit to the present and coming generations of the Royal Craft that this history be compiled."

It is much to be regretted that the recommendation did not meet the concurrence of Grand Chapter.

The Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England was extending its "colonial possessions" just about this time, and, it seems, had chartered lodges within the territorial jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Quebec. For this alleged invasion the G. H. P. was directed to issue his edict interdicting all fraternal communication with the Grand Mark Lodge of England until Quebec should signify that the difficulty had been adjusted. Presumably this was all right. Indeed, as Grand Chapter had said it, then it must be all right; but as a matter of fact the Mark Lodges, controlled by the Grand Mark Lodge of England, are about as little related to American Capitular Masonry as are the chapters of that Scottish exotic known as Royal Ark Mariners. If identity of degree—lectures, ceremonies, etc.—is to form the basis of jurisdictional rights and not mere similarity or even identity of names, then the Grand Mark Lodge of England might plant bodies of its obedience in Illinois without in any way invading the jurisdiction. The Mark degree of the American system, beautiful and impressive though it may be, is not the old Mark degree so long preserved and worked in the North England and Scottish lodges.

As in religion the worshiper too often forgets the thing symbolized and worships merely the symbol, so in Masonry the form too often hides the substance, and men pay reverence to the letter and ignore the spirit. Upon several occasions this fact has become unpleasantly manifest in Illinois. An impression prevails in certain of the Masonic circles that

JAMES H. HIBBARD.

Masonry consists of degrees and a governmental hierarchy of some kind. The extremists confine these degrees to three in number, the government and superintendence of which is vested in the Symbolic Lodge. But with these views the writer cannot agree; for, if his conception is right, Masonry does not consist of degrees at all. Degrees are but convenient subdivisions of the general subject which may be compressed into one degree or expanded into one hundred. But, then, others think differently, as they have a perfect right to do, and not infrequently these persons are men of brilliant minds and strong aggressive intellects. The late Comp. T. T. Gurney was one, and at this session (1884) he discussed his views in the report on Correspondence, asserting that the Royal Arch Chapter was not a "duly constituted Masonic body." Thereupon Comp. Wm. E. Ginther offered the following:

Resolved, That all that part of the Report of the Committee on Correspondence, expressing the opinion that our Masonry is not legitimate, and that the Chapter is not regular and duly constituted, be and is hereby emphatically rejected,—

Which after debate was made a special order for a later hour. This brought up the subject broached by Comp. Pace two years before with reference to the use of the esotery of the lodge in chapter ceremonials, and Comp. D. C. Cregier presented the following, which was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence:

Whereas, This Grand Chapter is the only source of authority and exercises exclusive jurisdiction in all matters pertaining to Capitular Masonry in the State of Illinois; and

Whereas, This declaration includes the possession of, exclusive authority over, and control and custody of, all and every one of the esoteric and exoteric ceremonies and rituals pertaining to the several degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch; and

Whereas, These claims are essential to and consistent with the sovereign powers and dignity of this Grand Chapter, as well as to other bodies of Masons; therefore,

Resolved, That the M. E. Grand Chapter of the State of Illinois hereby interdicts the use or practice of any of the esoteric ceremonies or rituals, pertaining to any of the degrees over which it has jurisdiction, by any companion of its obedience, in any Masonic body or organization of Masons, other than this Grand Chapter or the constituent chapters under its jurisdiction; and be it further

Resolved, That the use or practice of any esoteric ceremony or ritual pertaining to any Masonic body or organization of Masons, or of any degree or degrees of Masonry, other than that of M. M., P. M., M. E. M. and R. A., are hereby interdicted in this Grand Chapter and in every constituent chapter under its jurisdiction; and be it further

Resolved, That any companion violating any of the mandates herein specified shall be subject to discipline therefor.

The committee, having duly considered the matter found it too heavy to carry, and therefore gracefully deposited same in this manner:

Your Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom were referred the preamble and resolutions offered by Ex. Companions Cregier and Ginther respectively, fraternally report that at the last Convocation of this Grand Body, your committee reported on a resolution offered by Ex. Comp. Pace, which resolution involved the same questions, in part, as are involved in the resolution now under consideration; that an intelligent report would

involve an investigation amongst the legends and history of the Craft, which would, in all probability, force the committee to the conclusion that they could throw no light on the subject. Your committee feel, however, that the time has now arrived when the controversies growing out of the discussion of the subject matter of these resolutions must be met and definitely decided. We are of the opinion that, to give perfect and entire satisfaction to the Royal Craft in this Grand Jurisdiction, the decision, whatever it may be, shall be reached only after a careful, thorough and exhaustive consideration of the subject in all its bearings, not only as to the merits of the case, but also as to its effect on Capitular and Ancient Craft Masonry, and, recognizing the amount of labor and research necessary to arrive at a clear and satisfactory understanding, we recommend that the whole subject be referred to a committee of five members of this Grand Chapter, with instructions to report at the next annual Grand Convocation.

When the hour for the special order arrived it precipitated a lengthy debate, until finally Comp. Pearson offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the resolutions of Comp. William E. Ginther, together with the subject matter of the Report on Correspondence, be referred to the Special Committee, already raised, who have under consideration the resolutions of Comp. D. C. Cregier, to report at the next annual convocation; and that in the meantime the Report on Correspondence be printed with the proceedings of this Convocation.

Comp. John A. Ladd was elected G. H. P.

1885.

The convocation of 1885 presents little of permanent interest aside from the disposition of the special matters raised by the correspondence report of the year preceding and the resolutions which same called forth. The special committee held sessions during the recess, at which, it seems, the parties directly interested were present, and after a full and careful consideration of the questions involved, the investigation and comparison of authorities and a free discussion of all controverted points, formulated its conclusions in the premises. At the session of 1885 these conclusions were presented, through its chairman, John M. Pearson, as follows:

The degree of R. A. M. has no existence in Masonic history prior to the "revival" of A. D. 1717. If conferred at all prior to this, it probably was received as the conclusion of the Master's degree. Shortly after this date, however, we find historic mention of it—about the middle of the last century it appears to have been authorized by the Grand Lodge of England and in 1813 duly recognized by the United Grand Lodge of England.

Since this last date all Grand Lodges have acquiesced in the relationship and some have specially endorsed it in terms. On the other hand, no Grand Lodge has ever taken offense at, or endeavored to cut off the relationship, or imposed any restrictions relative thereto.

Surely the weight of all the history we have, is almost entirely in favor of maintaining the present friendly connection.

The committee wishes to add a few words relative to the propriety of the present position occupied by this Grand Chapter.

Freemasonry is defined by some of our best scholars as "a progressive moral science," illustrating moral truths by familiar symbols,—Your committee believes that to this "progressive" idea we owe much of our success, and power.

NELSON D. ELWOOD.

The foundation of all lies in the first three degrees, just as the foundation of mathematics lies in its definitions and the four fundamental rules; yet no one will claim that the science of mathematics is concluded by these first rules, while all allow that no operation can be performed without their use. So with the chapter and symbolic lodge. In all the years no occasion of offense has arisen. The lodge has not felt that it was wronged and the chapter has not abused its privileges. Your committee believes that both have benefited thereby.

The general "consensus" of the craft agrees with this. It would be difficult to find a R. A. M. upon whom the chapter degrees were duly conferred, who does not at once confess and believe that there is an "intimate connection" between ancient craft Masonry and the H. R. A. and the Master Masons of the whole country universally believe this. If there be an exception it is not among our younger men—who appear generally to be contented—but only among those, fond of technicalities and speculations, which, in the opinion of your committee, would result in damage to our whole Masonic fabric.

This leads to the consideration of what evils would naturally follow if the resolutions presented by Comp. Cregier should be adopted and enforced. All branches of the order would lose the benefit of the idea of "progression" mentioned before.

There would be no further search for more light, none could be given. The tale would be told, at the start. Each branch of our order must stand alone and so further lose the force of association that to most of us is very dear.

Time, in all probability, would lessen and finally dissolve even the semblance of connection.

Our system of work must be reorganized—all traces of kindly reference to Ancient Craft Masonry must be effaced. This, to be sure, would not impair the work of the symbolic lodge, but it would sorely lessen the force and beauty of our beautiful ritual.

Furthermore,—this matter of "work" and "uniformity of work" is conceded (very generally) to be under the control of the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America, and to their outline of plan our very complete ritual now conforms,—any radical change would conflict with this almost universal custom and put all R. A. Masons in our State "without the pale," as regards other Grand Chapters.

In short, the committee sees no good reason why the above resolutions, as offered by Comp. D. C. Cregier, should be adopted, and therefore respectfully reports back the same, with the recommendation "that they do not pass."

We respectfully report back the resolution offered by E. Comp. Ginther, with a substitute therefor, and recommend that the substitute do pass,—to-wit:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand Chapter there exists an intimate connection between Ancient Craft Masonry and the august degree of the Holy Royal Arch; that we do not endorse any expression, or implication, or influence, by any member, or officer, of this Grand body, that seems to deny the Masonic character of our order; that we will, by all honorable means, strive to maintain and perpetuate the present intimate, friendly and mutually profitable relations that have always existed and now exist between the M. W. Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of the State of Illinois and this Grand R. A. Chapter.

On motion the report was received, adopted and the recommendations concurred in. This practically closed the question of the severance of Symbolic and Capitular Masonry, and for fifteen years past but little has been heard upon the subject. Occasionally some zealous brother ventures to suggest that the Royal Arch is not a Masonic degree, and the few

extremists still contend that all true Masonry is confined to the Masters' Lodge, but, by the majority of the craft, this is now regarded as a heresy. The true doctrine, as it appears to the writer, is correctly stated by the committee.*

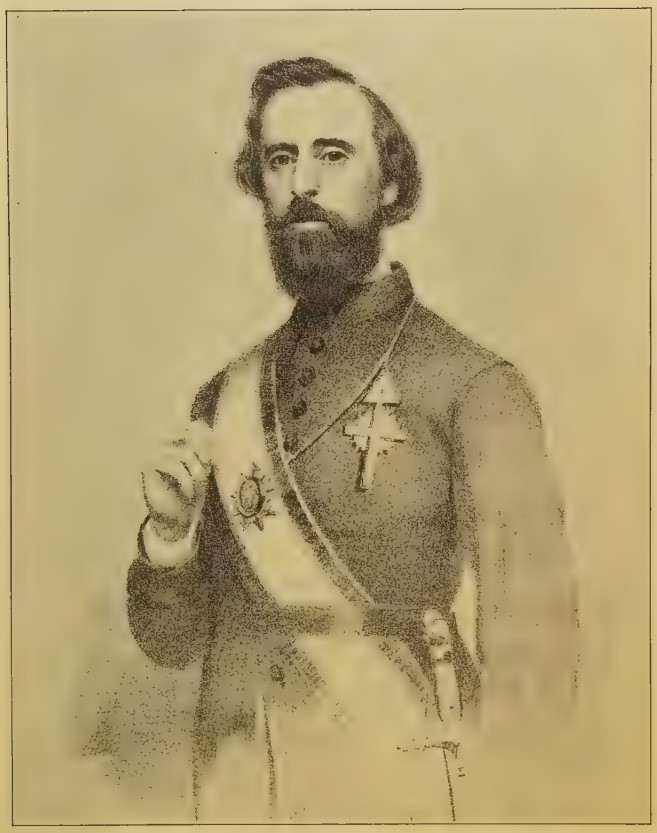
At the time the affair produced a ripple of excitement in Royal Arch circles, which extended from Maine to California. All eyes were turned on Illinois, and the outcome of the "revolutionary" movement was anxiously awaited. The result was received with satisfaction on all sides. As an indication of how the movement was regarded elsewhere the subjoined excerpt from the pen of J. H. Drummond, of Maine, one of the highest Masonic authorities in the country, may not be out of place nor without interest:

While the particular portions of the report to which reference is made are not indicated, we presume that they are the portions which sustain the resolutions introduced by Comp. Cregier. These resolutions are the logical result of the heresy originated by Comp. Gurney, that Chapters, Councils and Commanderies, as now constituted, are not Masonic bodies. The argument is, "These bodies are not Masonic bodies, and therefore can not rightfully use Masonic rituals." He and Comp. Cregier have reversed the argument and the conclusion; the fact is, they do use, and rightfully, Masonic rituals, and, therefore, are Masonic bodies.

The position that Chapters, Councils and Commanderies are merely organizations composed of Masons, and thus on a level with Masonic Relief Associations, Veteran Associations, and the like, is directly in conflict with the history of the Institution from its earliest organization. We regard the attempt to deprive Chapters of their Masonic character, and the right to use Masonic rituals, precisely as we would an attempt to confiscate their property, or to deprive them of any other thing to which they have a right equal to that of the lodge. We hold, and history shows, that the Chapter has the same right to use portions of the lodge work as the lodge has, and it would be no more presumptuous for the Chapter to forbid the lodge to use them than it would be for the lodge to forbid the Chapter to use them. The same remark applies as between the Chapter and Commandery. The action of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in fixing a limit to the use of rituals, has been very sharply criticised, but the proposed action of Illinois goes infinitely further. The criticisms of Illinois, however, have been consistent with her proposed action.

The chapter was organized as a continuation of blue Masonry, and the Council and Commandery were organized as continuations of Capitular Masonry. The fundamental idea of each was that it, and the degrees upon which it was founded, are one system, each portion, however, governing its own degrees. None save a Master Mason could be a Royal Arch Mason; as a necessity, he must prove himself in open Chapter to be a

* Discussing the nature and relation of the Royal Arch degree, the learned Dr. Mackey says: "As an independent degree, given under a distinct jurisdiction and furnished with a separate but appropriate ritual, it is undoubtedly a modern degree, of comparatively recent establishment; but as a complement of the Master Mason's order, as supplying the deficiency of that degree in Masonic symbolism, it is, and of course must be, as old as the organization of which it forms so important and so necessary a part. The third degree is a symbolic memorial of events which took place at the first temple. The Royal Arch is equally a symbolic memorial of events that occurred at the second, and as the one would be incomplete without the other, we have every reason to suppose that each was adopted at the earliest period of the modern organization of Freemasonry as a memorial system. Indeed they must go together. The Royal Arch is the cape-stone of the Masonic edifice, but the third degree is its foundation, and without the presence of both the building would be incomplete. The Royal Arch is absolutely necessary to the perfection of the Master's degree as a science of symbolism, and the latter cannot be understood without the developments of the former. They are the first and second volumes of a continuous history, and the absence of either would mutilate the work."



WILLIAM W. MITCHELL.

Master Mason; as a consequence, the Chapter must know the essential qualifications of a Master Mason, and itself teach them to those of its members who may have forgotten them. The Chapter was organized as a Masonic body, using certain portions of the ritual of the lodge, one of its main objects being to give more light upon matters taught in the lodge. This was perfectly well known in the lodge, which not only acquiesced, but admitted the claims of the Chapter; more than this, it surrendered portions of two of its degrees to become two degrees of the Chapter. From the beginning the Lodge and Chapter have walked side by side upon this foundation, the Lodge recognizing the Chapter as a Masonic body, and entitled to use its rituals in accordance with the common system and the Chapter recognizing the exclusive power of the Lodge over its own members, and the Lodge itself as the foundation of the Chapter. The same is true of the relations between the Chapter and the Commandery. It may be true that the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Illinois have never expressly committed themselves to this doctrine (although we have no doubt they both have), it was the fundamental law of the craft when they were formed, and it is as binding on them as upon all other Masons.

We regard the resolutions as revolutionary, and if they are adopted, and the Chapters forbidden to require or use the fundamental tests of eligibility of candidates, we do not perceive how the Chapters under her obedience can be regarded as regular Chapters of Royal Arch Masons.

Comp. John O'Neill was elected G. H. P.

1886.

The convocation of 1886 was uneventful. Peace and harmony prevailed while the returns showed that the Royal Craft throughout the jurisdiction was in a prosperous and flourishing condition. The business transacted was mainly of a routine character. The old proposition of a "history" was still in abeyance, but the G. H. P. (Comp. O'Neill) offered a valuable contribution thereto in the shape of a number of carefully prepared statistical tables. The work is not only a monument to the zeal and industry of the G. H. P., but a lasting benefit to the craft generally and the Masonic student in particular.

Comp. Geo. W. Curtiss was elected G. H. P.

1887.

The year 1887 witnessed no interruption of the peace and harmony which had long characterized the internal affairs of the jurisdiction or the relations of Grand Chapter with foreign bodies. The reports of the officers showed that the year, while not one of great activity, had been productive of sound and healthy growth.

At the convocation of 1884 Comp. J. R. Wilkins introduced a resolution relative to the keeping of a "lodge book of marks" by the constituent chapters—which was not acted upon. A year later the G. H. P. (Comp. Ladd) again directed attention to the subject, resulting in its reference to a special committee, but without results. At the convocation of 1886 a further resolution relating to same was introduced, as was also an amendment to the By-Laws, and at this session (1887) Comp. Curtiss once more called upon Grand Chapter to take some action thereon. Being thus pushed the representatives finally gave the matter serious consideration and on motion of Comp. Thomas Austin the following was adopted as a standing resolution:

Resolved, That each subordinate chapter in this Grand Jurisdiction forthwith provide itself with a "Book of Marks," which shall be in the lodge whenever the Mark Master Degree is conferred; that its use be explained to every candidate upon his advancement and the request made that he choose a "Mark" and record the same therein, either then, or previous to receiving the Royal Arch Degree.

Resolved, That all Royal Arch Masons members of chapters in this jurisdiction, who have not already adopted and recorded "Marks" be requested to do so at once.*

Comp. P. W. Barclay was elected G. H. P.

1888.

At the session of 1888 the G. H. P. (Comp. Barclay) reported the condition of the Royal Craft as not only peaceful and harmonious but prosperous, beyond his most sanguine expectations. The business of the session was routine and of temporary interest only. As usual the grievance committee had no complaint to hear or wrongs to redress.

Comp. Sylvester O. Spring was elected G. H. P.

1889.

The convocation of 1889 marked the fortieth year of the organized existence of Grand Chapter and found the craft enjoying the same fraternal relations as had characterized same for so many years preceding. If the historian is unable to find any stirring incidents he at least may notice a kind act, the donating of $1,000 to the Illinois Masonic Orphans' Home. This, however, was only one of the many benefactions of a similar nature which this truly fraternal body has bestowed upon the same beneficiary.

Comp. Joseph E. Dyas was elected G. H. P.

1890.

The convocation of 1890 differed in no material respect from those of its immediate predecessors. The reports and returns showed a degree of health, activity and general prosperity never before attained in the history of Grand Chapter.

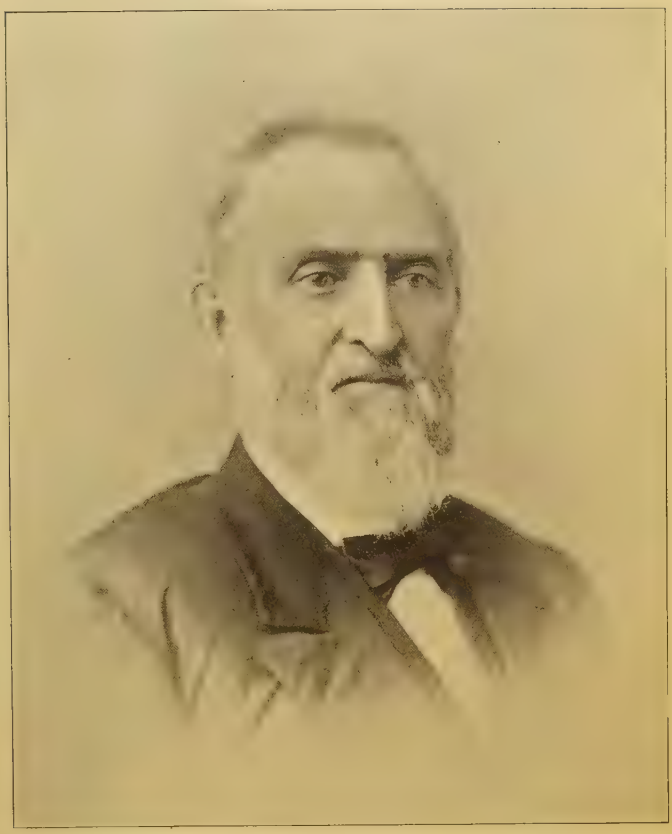
Comp. E. C. Pace was elected G. H. P.

1891.

The only question of moment before the convocation of 1891 was the oft-mooted subject of "substitutes." Much pressure was exerted to repeal

* The Mark, whose peculiar use is practically exemplified in the fourth degree, is the appropriate jewel of a Mark Master. It is generally made of gold or silver, usually of the former metal, but may be of stone, and must be in the form of a keystone. On the obverse or front surface the device or "mark" selected by the owner must be engraved, within a circle composed of the following letters: H. T. W. S. S. T. K. S. On the reverse or posterior surface the name of the owner, the name of his chapter, and the date of his advancement, may be inscribed, although this is not absolutely necessary. The "mark" consists of the device and surrounding inscription on the obverse.

It is not requisite that the device or mark should be of a strictly Masonic character, although Masonic emblems are frequently selected in preference to other subjects. As soon as adopted it should be drawn or described in a book kept by the chapter for that purpose, and it is then said to be "recorded in the Book of Marks," after which time it can never be changed by the possessor for any other, or altered in the slightest degree, but remains as his "mark" to the day of his death.



HIRAM W. HUBBARD.

the old regulation, but Grand Chapter, in view of past experience and present conditions, concluded that it was inexpedient to make any changes.

Comp. Jacob Krohn was elected Grand High Priest.

1892-4.

The session of 1892 was strictly routine. Comp. Richard T. Higgins was elected G. H. P. The session of 1893 resulted in the choice of J. W. Hutchinson as High Priest, and at the session of 1894 William L. Milligan was elected to that dignity.

1895.

The session of 1895 marked the forty-sixth annual convocation of Grand Chapter. The proceedings were of a routine character, and Comp. Geo. M. Moulton was elected G. H. P. The returns show that at the time of this convocation there were 186 active chapters in the jurisdiction, having a total membership of 16,414; that of the charters issued since the date of organization, twenty-five had been forfeited or surrendered; and that the craft was increasing throughout the State at the rate of about 500 a year. The reports of the financial officers disclosed that Grand Chapter had invested in corporate bonds the sum of $7,000; that there was then in the treasury an additional cash balance of $12,653.21, and that the income of the body from all sources was upward of $10,000 per annum. The general condition of the "Royal Craft" was fully up to the standard of former years, while the prospects for the future were never more bright.

1896.

The forty-seventh convocation disclosed a continuance of the favorable conditions shown the year preceding, but the minutes exhibit nothing of a startling character.

Notwithstanding that all High Priests were in possession of the "History of the Black Hawk war," it would yet seem that differences of interpretation were common, and in some instances the High Priests were not sufficiently versed in the language in which it was written to comprehend its full import. By virtue of a resolution passed in 1892, the G. H. P. (Comp. Moulton) appointed a Board of Lecturers, consisting of Comps. C. C. Nichols, Frank Hudson and J. L. Waller, and this Board has since been performing the duties of custodians and inspectors of the work. The results seem to have been highly beneficial, but as the new rituals are more open than the history of the late Indian uprising the necessity for such a board has been greatly diminished.

An effort was made at this session to establish "schools of instruction" similar to those authorized by Grand Lodge, but the committee, to which the matter was referred, reported that the measure was not expedient, and Grand Chapter concurred.

For some time the question of changes in the authorized lectures had been agitated and the premonitions of coming changes were evident at this session, although a resolution looking toward such changes failed of passage.

Comp. F. C. Winslow was elected G. H. P.

1897.

The returns for the year exhibited a fair degree of prosperity while peace and harmony prevailed in all parts of the jurisdiction. The G. H. P. (Comp. Winslow) called the attention of the representatives to the near proximity of the fiftieth anniversary of the organization of Grand Chapter and recommended the appointment of a committee to prepare historical and biographical data suitable for the occasion. No action, however, was taken further than an approval of the suggestion by committee on address.

The proceedings were routine and of temporary interest only.

Comp. Eugene L. Stoker was elected G. H. P.

1898.

The forty-ninth annual convocation was held Oct. 27, 1898, with M. E. Comp. Stoker presiding.

Business routine and of temporary interest only, except that Past Grand High Priests were allowed same milage and per diem as representatives and a committee was appointed "to consider the propriety of this Grand Chapter adopting the ritual of the General Grand Chapter," with instructions to report at the next annual convocation.

Comp. Wm. B. Grimes was elected Grand High Priest.

1899.

The fiftieth annual convocation was held at Chicago Oct. 26, 1899.

The reports and returns showed that Grand Chapter was in a most prosperous condition, financially, numerically and socially. Peace and harmony prevailed in all parts of the jurisdiction and the outlook for the future was equally bright.

While the transactions were mainly of a routine character, several incidents marked radical changes in former methods and policy. For thirty years then next preceding the standard ritual had been the compilation known as "Black Hawk." From time to time suggestions for changes had been made, but nothing had come of them. At the session of 1898 the suggestion was renewed by the Grand High Priest (Comp. Stoker), who intimated that the G. G. C. ritual might profitably be employed. The suggestion was referred to committee with instructions to report at this convocation. This the committee did, and the report resulted in the passage of the following:

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter substitute the ritual of the General Grand Chapter, United States of America, for the ritual authorized by this Grand Chapter and now in use in the several Chapters in this jurisdiction; and that the Grand High Priest be instructed to procure a sufficient number of said rituals from the Grand Secretary of the General Grand Chapter for the use of the said Chapters and the Grand Officers of this Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That the said rituals of the General Grand Chapter, when received, be distributed by the Grand Secretary of this Grand Chapter to the High Priests reported elected and installed at the forthcoming annual elections in the several Chapters of this jurisdiction.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary shall take a receipt from the High Priest to whom rituals shall be delivered, which receipt shall be filed and kept in the office of the Grand Secretary.

WILEY M. EGAN.

As the new ritual has only been in use for about a year, at this writing, it is impossible to predicate its future.

The question of "substitutes," for many years much mooted, was again presented. The Grand High Priest (Comp. Grimes), in his annual address "earnestly recommended" their use, urging as a reason therefor that the practice, if adopted, "will at once give life to many small, weak Chapters, now almost, if not quite, dormant, and many others struggling for a bare existence." The recommendation was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, which reported back adversely; but Grand Chapter thought otherwise, for after a lengthy debate the motion to adopt the committee's report was lost, and as a compromise measure the By-Laws were amended as follows:

Sec. 18. No Chapter in this jurisdiction shall confer the Royal Arch degree on more or less than three Most Excellent Masters at a time; Provided, that one substitute may be used, in the discretion of the E. High Priest.

And thus Grand Chapter made two radical departures from its time-honored rules and traditions, the wisdom of which remains to be seen. It is strongly contended, however, that both are in the right direction, and possibly this may be the case.

Comp. Nathaniel Bowditch was elected Grand High Priest.

* * *

During the year three of the fathers passed away—James A. Hawley, Asa W. Blakesley and A. A. Murray. All had labored long and earnestly and all had enjoyed the highest honors of the craft.

* * *

The statistics and returns to the annual convocation of 1899 showed that 214 charters for subordinate chapters had been issued by Grand Chapter since the date of its organization, of which number 184 were then in force, and that a grand total of 17,095 Royal Arch Masons were then in its obedience.

The Treasury showed a cash balance, after all disbursements, of $16,882.28, with a further sum of $7,000 invested in four per cent bonds. The total receipts for the year were $11,088.01, while the total disbursements amounted to $8,699.76. Compare these figures with the conditions existing when the mileage and per diem accounts were first scaled and then abolished and Grand Chapter was forced to negotiate a loan to meet its necessary expenses.

* * *

It may be said, and with much truth, that the foregoing brief and imperfect digest affords but a poor synopsis of the transactions of a large and influential body of Masons during a long period of years. But the limitations of time and space preclude a more exhaustive treatment. Nor is it intended that these sketches should be more than brief notices of the salient features of the years under review. To attempt more would be to

transcend the limits imposed by the scope of this report and possibly an abstract of the proceedings, with their multitudinous details of petty acts of routine business, would lack the interest for the general reader which it is the desire of the writer to retain. To the student, or those who may desire to prosecute some special inquiry, the printed reports are all accessible.

The object of the writer has been to show in brief epitome the inception of the Royal Craft in this jurisdiction and to trace its history during the fifty years of the organized life of Grand Chapter. For this purpose a chronological review has been adopted. There are, however, some matters which can better be shown by topical treatment, and these matters will form the substance of what follows.

* * *

It will be perceived, from the foregoing digest, that Grand Chapter, with one exception, has changed its presiding officer every year. This line of action is based to some extent upon the theory that every companion competent to discharge the duties of government in a constituent chapter is qualified to assume the grave responsibilities of Grand High Priest, but more, perhaps, on the theory that the office is one of honor and that he who has once been installed can receive no greater or additional honor by subsequent re-election. The plan has worked well and Grand Chapter has been fortunate in its selection of a long line of able, zealous and learned men to fill the chief office within its gift. The succession of Grand High Priests has been preserved in the digest, to which the reader is referred.

At the organization meeting in 1850 Mason Brayman was elected Grand Secretary. He was not present at the first annual convocation held in October of the same year, and the name of James L. Anderson appears as Secretary. At the election of that year Comp. Anderson was chosen Secretary, but he does not appear to have been present at the following annual convocation of 1851, and his duties were performed pro tem. by John S. Roberts. At the election of this year Comp. H. G. Reynolds was chosen to fill the station, and for eighteen years in succession received a re-election. During much of this time his dominating influence is apparent in Grand Chapter legislation and administrative policy.

At the annual convocation of 1869 Comp. James H. Miles was elected Secretary and each succeeding year until 1878 was re-elected, thus making a period of incumbency of about ten years.

In 1878 Comp. Gil. W. Barnard was elected and has since continued to perform the duties of the office. It will be seen, therefore, that during its entire career Grand Chapter has had practically but three Secretaries. Each of the persons who have filled the office was eminently qualified. Of the present incumbent, Comp. Barnard, but little need be said, as he is, without doubt, the best known Mason in the State of Illinois. His administration of the office has been a model in every particular, and it is sincerely to be hoped that he may be spared for many years to adorn the positions he has long occupied and acceptably filled.

The Treasurer of the organization meeting was Thos. H. Campbell, but he, like Comp. Brayman, did not attend the first annual convocation

LOYAL L. MUNN.

in October, 1850. At this session Comp. Elias Hibbard was elected Treasurer, and in 1851 was re-elected. He did not attend the session of 1852, when Wm. S. Hurst was elected in his stead. Comp. Hurst served one year and in 1853 was succeeded by Comp. James H. Hibbard. At the next election, in 1854, Comp. William McMurtry became Treasurer, a position he retained until 1862, when he was succeeded by James R. Mack. In 1864 Comp. Mack gave way to Comp. Harrison Dills, who remained the custodian of the funds until 1875. At the convocation of 1875 Comp. A. A. Glenn succeeded and remained in the office until 1878. He was succeeded by Comp. Orlin H. Miner, who held the office until 1880, since which time the present incumbent, Comp. W. M. Egan, has been continuously elected to receive the trust. It will thus be seen that Grand Chapter has had a comparatively large number of Treasurers. Two of these officers, Comps. Dills and Glenn, retired through stress of circumstances and pecuniary failures in their own business, but as Grand Chapter had but little funds in those days no loss was entailed.

* * *

The committees of Grand Chapter resemble those of Grand Lodge and the committee work is performed in much the same manner. There is, however, a noticeable difference in some of the reports. Thus it rarely happens that the grievance committee has any work to perform, and many sessions have passed with the pleasing statement that no matters have been referred to or considered by them. Matters of administrative policy are frequently considered by the body, and so of a number of subjects that in Grand Lodge always go to committees in the first instance. For many years the "pay roll," or account of mileage and per diem, was prepared and presented by the Secretary as part of his official duties, and it is only recently that this subject has been referred to a committee.

The two principal committees are those on Jurisprudence and Accounts. The latter is both the Finance and Auditing committee of Grand Chapter, and is, perhaps, the most important of all the committees.

* * *

The organization meeting of Grand Chapter in 1850 was held at Springfield. The first annual convocation held in October of the same year occurred at Alton. In 1851 the sessions were held at Jacksonville and this continued to be the place of meeting until 1856. In 1857 the convocation was held at Springfield, and each succeeding convocation until 1865 was held at that place. In 1866 the convocation was held at Chicago. In 1867-8-9 at Springfield. In 1870 the session was held at Chicago, where all subsequent meetings have been convened.

For many years Grand Chapter regulated the time and place of its annual convocations by the actions of Grand Lodge. At first the sessions were held immediately prior to the annual communication of Grand Lodge, and this continued to be the rule until 1861, when the Friday succeeding the meeting of that body was substituted. This continued to be the time

of meeting until 1870, when it was decided that the business of the session could be more advantageously transacted if an interval were allowed to elapse between the meetings of Grand Chapter and Grand Lodge. Accordingly the "first Thursday after the fourth Tuesday in October" was selected as the day for the annual convocation, and all subsequent meetings have been held at that time.

* * *

Like the other Masonic bodies of the State, and agreeably to ancient usage, Grand Chapter authenticates its official acts under its great seal. At the convocation of 1850 the Grand Secretary was instructed to procure a seal for the use of Grand Chapter, and in connection with the Grand High Priest was authorized to "select a suitable device for the same." This duty was apparently duly performed, but aside from the act of authorization Grand Chapter has never given any further attention to the matter.

The design selected by the committee is simple and chaste, the distinctive feature consisting of the symbol. For this part of the device the committee selected the interlaced triangles, Masonically known as the sign of the Macrocosm, or Seal of Solomon.

* * *

In all works of charity and fraternal benevolence the Grand Chapter of Illinois has ever been prominent. Upon all occasions of public calamities, whether by fire, flood, or famine, it has freely and cheerfully responded. To the aged and indigent of its own household it has ever given with an open hand, while for many years the organized Masonic charities of the jurisdiction have been the recipients of its generous bounty. Scarcely a session has elapsed since the date of its organization that has not witnessed some manifestation of philanthropic endeavor. In all of this may be seen a true appreciation of the sublime precepts and lessons of the system and a substantial evidence that the lessons have not been without effect.

* * *

Royal Arch Masonry is essentially an embodiment of high morality. This has always been recognized and proclaimed by the Grand Chapter of Illinois, and while no sumptuary laws have ever been enacted, the observance and practice of the cardinal virtues of Masonry has frequently been enjoined upon the Craft in its obedience. This has not only been done by the approval of the actions and reports of its officers and committees, but also by positive resolutions passed by the body. Thus, at the session of 1856, it was

Resolved, That the cardinal virtues of Fortitude, Prudence and Justice are dependent on the maintenance of the cardinal virtue of Temperance; that every intemperate man is liable to lose that fortitude which might never forsake him in his hours of sobriety; nor can any such man be either prudent or just.

Resolved, That the Subordinate Chapters are hereby strongly urged to root out the evil of intemperance from among them, and to exercise a wholesome, prompt and efficient discipline upon the subject.

ORLIN H. MINOR.

These resolutions were given the force of general regulations and remained as the expressed sentiment of the body for over thirty years. In 1868 Grand Chapter again spoke in unequivocal language respecting the vice of intemperance. The subject was presented to the session by the G. H. P. (Comp. Lininger), who, after a statement of facts, urged Grand Chapter to take some decisive action "to the end that we do not retrograde, that we may show to the world without that while we are willing to throw about the foibles of a brother the broad mantle of charity, yet are we so governed by immutable principles that wickedness and excess will ever receive our hearty rebuke." The Committee on Address endorsed the Grand High Priest's views, and Grand Chapter concurred by the passage of the following:

Resolved, That each subordinate Chapter within the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter shall purge itself of intemperance and profanity; and that it be the duty of this Grand Chapter to arrest the Charter of any Chapter failing to comply with this resolution.

This also became a standing resolution.

* * *

When the first permanent constitution was adopted in 1852 a code of By-Laws was framed to accompany same, and among the other standing committees therein provided was one on Education. At the same session Comp. H. G. Reynolds moved

That the Grand Lodge of Illinois, A. F. and A. Masons, be requested to appoint a Special Committee to confer with the Committee on Education of this Grand Chapter, and devise ways and means to raise a fund for the education of the children of indigent and deceased Masons in this State.

The motion prevailed and Comp. Reynolds was appointed to make the request. Grand Lodge met on the Monday following the passage of this resolution, but it does not appear from the record that the request was preferred. The standing committee, appointed at this session, consisted of Comps. M. J. Noyes, W. H. Turner and A. W. Blakesley; and while the record of Grand Lodge does not disclose any action by that body it would yet seem that a conference was had, for at the convocation of 1853 this committee reported back as follows:

The undersigned, Committee on Education, appointed at the last annual convocation of your Grand Body, having attended to the duties of their said appointment, and having, in pursuance of the intimations given them, conferred with the committee on the same subject, appointed by the Most Worshipful, the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, of Illinois, beg leave respectfully to report: That in our opinion it is inexpedient for the Grand Bodies aforesaid to take any present action for the establishment of an Institution or Institutions of learning, to be under the guardianship and control of said bodies, or either of them; believing that the local Masonic bodies will generally, if not always, be able to extend to the destitute orphan children of our deceased brethren such assistance in regard to Education, as their several circumstances may require.

No further reports seem to have been received from this committee until 1856, when Comp. Noyes submitted the following, which was adopted:

The undersigned, two of the Committee on Education, appointed at the last annual convocation of your Grand body, beg leave respectfully to report:

That they have had but little opportunity to consult upon the subject committed to them; Comp. Hayden, not being present, has not been consulted.

The undersigned, having considered the subject, think that the limited means of this Grand Body precludes the practicability of its undertaking, at present, to establish any school or institution of learning, although we trust and believe that this most E. G. Body, with each and all of its members and subordinates, fully appreciates the importance of general education as the only safeguard of the civil institutions of our beloved country, the best means of advancing the interests of the rising generation, and of securing a succession to Masonry; and we hope at some future period (not far distant) this M. E. G. Body may be enabled to unite with the M. Worshipful Grand Lodge of Illinois in the establishment of an institution of learning that shall prove an honor to said Grand Bodies, and redound to the greatest good of generations to come.

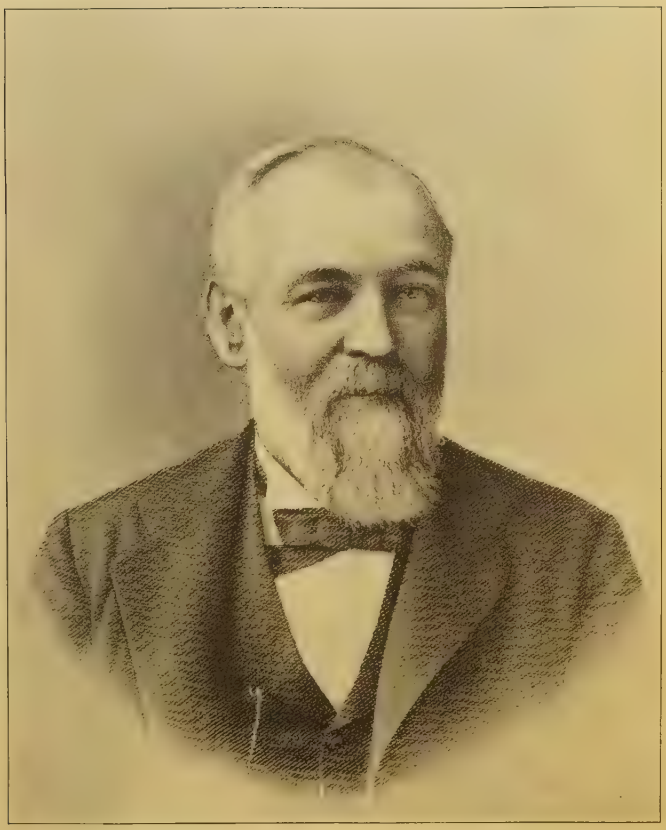
At the convocation of 1857 the committee again reported that the conditions were not favorable for the establishment of any institution of learning. In 1859 a report of similar tenor was presented, and for several years thereafter perfunctory reports were occasionally made until finally the committee was abolished. Without the co-operation of Grand Lodge it was felt that nothing could be accomplished, and although Grand Chapter kept the educational project alive long after it had ceased to be discussed in Grand Lodge the changed conditions of civil society resulting in the establishment of common schools finally caused its abandonment.

In the charitable movements afterwards inaugurated looking toward the nurture and education of Masonic orphans, Grand Chapter has always evinced the deepest solicitude and interest, and by generous contributions has fully sustained its old-time prestige in this line of Masonic work.

* * *

Grand Lodge, on several occasions, has permitted the creation of movable lodges. The majority of these nomadic lodges resulted from the Civil war and were attached to Illinois regiments in the service of the United States.

Fortunately the movement was mainly confined to Craft lodges, and the only dispensation for the organization of a movable chapter was granted by James H. Hibbard, G. H. P., during the year 1863. The warrant was issued to Comps. Silas O. Vaughan, A. D. Clark, L. J. W. Underhill and others, and authorized them to form and open a chapter at Columbus, Ky., to be called "Asboth Military Chapter." It would seem that this chapter was attached to the Second Regiment Artillery; yet the dispensation, as appears from the report of the Grand High Priest, authorized the opening of a chapter at a definite location within the jurisdiction of a Grand Chapter with which the Grand Chapter of Illinois was on terms of amity and in fraternal correspondence. Whether this act was justified by the then condition of the country must be left for the jurists to decide. This dispensation empowered the chapter to work "until the close of the war" unless sooner revoked. The chapter remained at Columbus until the



GEORGE W. LININGER.

winter of 1863-4, when it was removed to Vicksburg, holding its convocations in the Masonic Temple of that city. At the end of the war the dispensation was returned and the record of the proceedings thereunder is now among the archives of Grand Chapter.

While it may be that the institution of Masonic bodies to follow the armies was of questionable legality, as well as doubtful expediency, yet there can be no question as to the beneficent influence which Masonry itself exercised over the combatants during the sanguinary struggle. The many acts of kindness and fraternity exhibited by the brethren in either army, on the field, in the hospital and in the prison, all show that even in the midst of war's alarms the teachings of the lodge and the sacredness of obligations were not forgotten, and many a man owes personal comfort, liberty and life itself to the fact that his captor was bound to him by the "mystic tie."

* * *

The Grand Chapter of Illinois is a constituent of the body known as the General Grand Chapter, and all Royal Arch Masons of its obedience are required as a condition of exaltation, to vow allegiance thereto. As there are other "General Grand" bodies which are not recognized in this State a word of explanation may not be out of place.

The system of Royal Arch Masonry practiced in Illinois, and in all of the jurisdictions within the General Grand Chapter constituency, is essentially American in ritualistic expression and arrangement of degrees. It is now generally conceded to be the work of Thomas Smith Webb, and to have had its origin about the year 1798. Prior to this time there were but few chapters, and such as perchance did exist worked under the sanction of a Master's warrant or by self-constituted authority. There was a chapter of the latter description in New York prior to 1796, called "Washington," which claimed and exercised the right to work the R. A. degree independent of the Master's Lodge, and to grant charters of constitution. Of this body but little is known. In 1796 a convention of "committeemen" was held which passed a resolution requesting Washington Chapter not to issue charters for a chapter except upon the recommendation of the nearest chapter; so there must have been chapters in those days. But the systems of these chapters were very dissimilar. Some used the Irish ritual —Royal Arch of Dublin, a ritual very much like our own; some employed the English Royal Arch of Dermott, or other English adaptations. Some conferred only the Royal Arch, others had one or two subsidiary degrees. Out of this chaos Webb compiled a system of his own. The Mark degree was a "modification" of an existing ritual; the Past was simply an installation service, retained because all of the systems agreed upon the fundamental point that the Royal Arch could be conferred only upon one who had "regularly passed the chair;" the Most Excellent seems to have been a pure invention and has no prototype in any of the systems theretofore practiced. There was a degree bearing the name "Excellent" in the old English Royal Arch system, and it is not unlikely that Webb, desiring that his own scale should resemble in nomenclature the English rituals,

applied the old name to a new creation of his own, he being ignorant of the English ritual. This theory is supported by the fact that he did practically the same thing in his arrangement of the degrees of the Commandery, giving the name "Red Cross" to an arrangement of his own simply because the chivalric orders in England comprised only the degrees of Red Cross* and The Temple.

At all events, a new system was prepared, and that system was given to the organization which in 1798 was instituted under the name "Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Northern States of America," and which by 1806 had become the "General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America." The system was then the property of that body and it alone had the right to say how, when and to whom it should be communicated. It alone had the right to disseminate it or to prescribe rules for its government. The General Grand Chapter, therefore, is the fountain from whence all of the Webb Masonry of the Royal Arch flows; and while, in 1859, the body saw fit to surrender a large measure of its powers, resulting in virtual emasculation, it nevertheless is still the possessor of the original and ultimate title to the system. In Virginia, Pennsylvania and Texas the Grand Chapters are independent, yet the work of the two former, save as they may have "absorbed" it, is not the Webb system; and while the latter does work the standard ritual, it does so only upon the same authority as he who, having borrowed my coat, now claims it for his own and continues to wear it. Texas was originally a constituent, but "drew out." Undoubtedly every Grand Chapter has the inalienable right to withdraw from the General Grand whenever it may desire and refuse longer to recognize its governing authority; but no Grand Chapter has a right to withdraw and take with it the Royal Arch system, which is the property of the parent body.

Therefore, Illinois is, and will undoubtedly remain, a constituent of the General Grand Chapter, and certainly so long as it continues to use its system it cannot, in common fairness and honesty, do otherwise. There was a time when Illinois desired a separation; when it instructed its delegates to procure such on honorable terms; and it is possible that time and circumstances may again produce such a feeling; but should the separation ever come, then we should surrender our ritual to the power from whom we derived same, and secure the right to use some other.

* * *

The "History of the Black Hawk War" is a compromise. The "residents of the Military Reservation" were probably as well qualified to assume the task of compiling the history as any that could have been selected, and that their work was faithfully and conscientiously performed no one acquainted with the men will for a moment doubt. But, from the comparisons which we have recently been enabled to make, it will be perceived that it differs materially from the standard ritual of the General Grand Chapter. The authors think it is better, and possibly it is, but

* The English Red Cross degree is the one now popularly known as Red Cross of Constantine.

JAMES H. MILES.

it is not the original Webb lectures. However, the venerable historians of that sanguinary war may derive some satisfaction from the fact that the standard ritual of the General Grand Chapter is not the original work of Webb, but, like their own production, a melange, contributed by a number of equally talented and versatile ritualists.

In other words, the lectures of the chapter, equally with those of the lodge, are subject to the mutations of time and caprice of men. Webb changed and altered them in his own lifetime. His successors have done the same; and, while the lectures which for so many years we continued to employ, as well as those we now use, are substantially the same as they were one hundred years ago, some very salient features have been eliminated and a few less noticeable matters added.

It will be seen, therefore, that, while the only real bond between the Grand Chapter of Illinois and the General Grand Chapter lies in the fact that we are using the General Grand's system, yet for fifty years our lectures were not the ones promulgated by that body; and we have the further seeming anomaly that, with all of the Grand Chapters of the Union, save three, under the direct supervision of a general central body, scarcely any two jurisdictions work in all respects alike. This arose primarily from the fact that while the General Grand did control and disseminate a system, it did not, until many years had elapsed, promulgate a ritual; and while all of its constituents were supposed to use the Webb lectures it is easy to perceive how the lectures, left to the caprice of the lecturers, might become debased upon the one hand and improved upon the other. After a particular school of lectures had become popular in a locality it became difficult to displace them. Hence the numerous variations.

* * *

The connection which subsists between the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois and the General Grand Chapter has ever been of the most fragile character. To the majority of the craft the General Grand is little more than a vague abstraction. They know that it exists, and that, in a general way, they are in its obedience; but that is about all.

The provisional constitution under which Grand Chapter was organized makes no mention whatever of the General Grand, and does assert a complete independence, the opening lines being, "This Grand Chapter has the sole government and superintendence of the several Royal Arch Chapters, and Lodges of Mark, Past, and Most Excellent Master Masons, within the State of Illinois; with authority to settle all controversies; * * * to prescribe laws and regulations for their government; to review, confirm or annul their decisions." All of the other provisions are equally emphatic in the assertion of sovereign powers. The By-Laws which accompanied this Constitution recognized the General Grand, but only in a perfunctory sort of a way.

It must not be understood, however, that in all this there was any intentional disrespect to the parent body or any desire to disregard any claims which that body might lawfully possess or assert. Grand Chapter was organized under the direct auspices of the General Grand; Article 2

of the Constitution of the G. G. C., with slight variations, was in fact its provisional constitution, and under this it continued to act until 1852, when a "permanent" constitution was adopted.

The permanent Constitution expressly recognized the G. G. C. by providing a declaration of fealty or allegiance to be made by "each Grand officer previous to entering upon the duties of his office." The same requirement was prescribed for the officers of subordinate chapters at the time of installation, while the esoteric ceremonies have always imposed this upon every candidate at the time of exaltation.

From time to time murmurs of discontent have been heard against the G. G. C. About the time of organization of Grand Chapter these evidences of dissatisfaction were rife, and a large number of State Grand Chapters were seriously considering the project either of a dissolution of the G. G. C. or a withdrawal from its communion. Illinois, having but lately left the maternal fold, was influenced by this fact, and at the convocation of 1852 placed on record its views in a resolution which declared

That this Grand Chapter is in favor of the continuance of the General Grand Chapter, and will strenuously oppose its dissolution.

By the year 1870, however, Grand Chapter seems to have experienced a decided change of heart. The G. G. C. was no longer considered a necessity, and scarcely a luxury, of capitular life. The extremists advocated withdrawal, but the conservative element, which was in the majority, effected a compromise by the introduction and passage of a resolution instructing the representatives to advocate and vote for a dissolution of the body. As a matter of fact, the representatives did neither, for they seem to have been "waited upon" when they made their appearance and completely converted. By making all Past Grand High Priests permanent members the G. G. C. has done much to perpetuate its own existence; and while the tie which unites the constituent Grand Chapters is but a slight one, yet the mild and inoffensive course of the body has practically silenced cavil. For many years there have been no suggestions for a dissolution.

* * *

The Grand Chapter, like the Grand Lodge, is a civil corporation as well as a voluntary association, and like the Grand Lodge it pays but little attention to the charter from the State and performs all its work under a constitution of its own devising and which it changes at pleasure.

The permanent constitution of Grand Chapter was not adopted until 1852, but immediately thereafter, on motion of Comp. L. Lusk, it was

Resolved, That Comps. Reynolds, Warren and Lavely be appointed a committee to apply to the Legislature of this State for a Charter of Incorporation of this Grand Chapter, and Chapters subordinate to this Grand Chapter.

At the session of 1853 the committee reported the performance of this duty and submitted the Act of Incorporation, which was approved.

The Act of Incorporation was passed by the General Assembly in February, 1853, and has been in force from that time. The civil corporation is composed of the same persons which constitute the Masonic body and

Jno M. Pearson

is called "The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Illinois." Whether the body which meets annually at Chicago is this civil corporation or whether same is a voluntary organization existing in conformity to ancient Masonic usage the writer does not decide. Certain it is, however, that in the deliberations of that body the charter is never alluded to and the body claims and exercises, as of right, sovereign powers, prerogatives and attributes based upon the fundamental principles of Masonry.

The civil corporation possesses the usual delegated powers; may sue and be sued, prosecute and defend, in all manner of actions at law or in equity; may make rules and regulations for its own government; may purchase and hold real estate; may maintain funds for charity and educational purposes, but for no other uses or benefits whatever; shall not at any one time hold personal or mixed property to an amount exceeding $50,000, nor real estate to an amount exceeding 1,000 acres of land; may loan its money and take evidences of debt; may borrow money in sums not exceeding $500* at any one time, and may appoint all proper officers, agents and attorneys for the management of its business that it may deem proper.

Sec. 8 of the Act further provides as follows:

Each Subordinate Chapter under the jurisdiction of the aforesaid Grand Royal Arch Chapter, now in existence, or which may hereafter be Chartered by the same, is also hereby declared to be a body politic and corporate, by and under the name, style and number set forth in their respective Charters; and by such designation they may respectively sue, and be sued, plead, and be impleaded, defend, and be defended against, in all suits arising in law or chancery, in all the Courts of this State, and by said respective names and numbers. The said Subordinate Chapters respectively, shall be capable in law of purchasing or receiving, by purchase, gift, or otherwise, and of selling and conveying, real and personal estate, for the benefit of said Subordinate Chapters respectively: Provided, That neither of said Subordinate Chapters shall, at any one time, possess more than five hundred acres of land, or hold real estate exceeding in value Twenty-Five Thousand dollars each.

So far as applicable the provisions relating to Grand Chapter are also applicable to each of the subordinate chapters. The following is the provision relating to dissolution of chapters:

In case any Subordinate Chapter under the jurisdiction of said Grand Royal Arch Chapter, should cease to exist, or forfeit its Charter, then all the estate, real and personal, together with all the records, books, papers, vouchers, furniture, jewels, seals and fixtures belonging to such Chapter, shall immediately vest in the said Grand Royal Arch Chapter; and all personal property, the books, records, papers, vouchers, jewels, seals, furniture, deeds, moneys, evidences of debt, leases or mortgages, belonging to said Chapter so forfeiting its Charter, or ceasing to exist, shall be delivered over by the last Secrtary or Treasurer of the same, to the proper officer or agent of said Grand Royal Arch Chapter, on demand; and on failing to do so, each and every member of such delinquent Chapter shall be individually liable to said Grand Royal Arch Chapter, in an action of debt, for the full value of the same.

As originally passed the Act required Grand Chapter to annually file with the Secretary of State a printed copy of its proceedings, list of officers

* Grand Chapter seems to have violated this provision in 1877 when a loan of $1,500.00 was negotiated.

and of its subordinate chapters, together with a list of their officers and members; but this requirement was subsequently repealed by a rider annexed to amendatory act of 1855 incorporating Grand Lodge.

It will be observed that the charter provides for individual liability in case of dissolution of subordinate chapters. There were many objections urged against this clause at the time, but as the years roll by and no one has yet been mulcted it has lost its early terrors. But the clause is there just the same.

ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTHOOD.

Among the many degrees, orders and dignities which have obtained recognition or secured adoption in the jurisdiction of Illinois, is the auxiliary capitular grade of High Priesthood; but when, where or how it originated is not definitely known. It is conferred, as an honorarium, upon the High Priests of Royal Arch Chapters, and since the organization of Grand Chapter has been wholly under the auspices and control of that body.

The degree finds its first mention in the second edition of Webb's Monitor, published in 1802, under the head, "Observations on the Order of High Priests;" and the general opinion of Masonic scholars is that it originated about that time and emanated from Webb himself. It is not known outside of America. It was probably formulated by the Committee on Constitutional Revision of the General Grand Chapter in 1799, as this committee reported back a form for the installation of High Priests, which provided, at a certain point in the ceremonies, for the exclusion of all who were not High Priests; and "after the performance of other necessary ceremonies, not proper to be written," the excluded persons were to be permitted to return. It is surmised that the "other necessary ceremonies, not proper to be written," were the present ceremonials of consecration and anointing to the Priesthood. Webb was a member of the committee and the controlling spirit of the General Grand Chapter at that time.

But while the original idea seems to have been that the consecration, even though performed in private, should be an integral part of the installation of High Priests, and indeed so remained, in theory at least, until 1853, when the section relating to same was repealed, yet in practice it soon became a separate ceremonial; and Cross in his Masonic Chart, as early as 1826, had so arranged it. Since this time, if not before, it has been entirely disconnected with the ceremony of installation.

* * *

The first mention of the conferring of the Order of High Priesthood, in this jurisdiction, is found in the proceedings of the Grand Chapter for the year 1851. On the evening of Friday, Oct. 3, 1851, at the town of Jacksonville, a Council of High Priests was opened with Comp. J. V. Z. Blaney as President, and six persons, High Priests of their respective Chapters, "were introduced, duly consecrated, and admitted to the Order in solemn form." The Companions, the first to receive this honor within the

AUGUSTUS A. MURRAY.

State, were M. J. Noyes, of Barry; Charles Howard, of Upper Alton; Louis Watson, of Quincy; William S. Hurst, of Jacksonville; John Jewell, of Peoria, and Daniel C. McNeil, of Cambridge.

It does not seem that any further conventions were held until 1853, or if such were held no record of the same has been preserved. In this year, however, a council was opened and the order conferred on three candidates. Sept. 28, 1854, seven High Priests, "being possessed of the requisite qualifications," were "severally received and admitted to the Order of High Priesthood, with solemn ceremonies." After which, on motion of Comp. Shirley, it was

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to consider upon the propriety of forming a Council of High Priests, and if deemed advisable, to prepare a Constitution and By-Laws and report at the next meeting of the Grand Chapter.

On Sept. 7, 1855, the Convention again met, with Comp. Levi Lusk as President. Nine candidates were admitted. A Constitution was then adopted, and the Association, under the name and style, "Grand Council of High Priests of the State of Illinois," became a permanent organization. From 1855 until the present time (1900) the Council has met regularly each year with the annual convocation of Grand Chapter, and during this period there have been "admitted, anointed, consecrated and set apart unto the Order of High Priesthood" a total of 1,270 persons, which, together with those received in the temporary councils prior to organization, makes a grand total of 1,286 Companions consecrated to the "sacerdotal office" in Illinois.

The control and direction of the affairs of the council is vested in a President, Vice President, Recorder, who is also custodian of the funds, Master of Ceremonies and such other officers as are required in the rendition of the traditional ceremonies. By the unwritten laws of the Council the office of Tyler is always filled by the immediate Past Grand High Priest, M. E. Comp. Wm. B. Grimes, being the last person to occupy the station at the time of writing this review.

The first President under the Constitution was the venerable Levi Lusk, who served until 1861. He was succeeded by M. J. Noyes, who continued to serve until the time of his death, in 1867, when the present incumbent, Loyal L. Munn, was elected. It will thus be seen that the organization has had but three presiding officers during the entire period of its existence; and as Comp. Munn bids fair to remain with us for many years, it will probably be long ere the list is extended.

While the Council has for many years collected an "honorarium" from the novices, the sum has been small and designed only to cover the actual expenses of the session. No money is kept in the treasury over night, and after the disbursements incidental to the session have been made the balance remaining is devoted to some work of charity or benevolence.

At the convocation of 1895 a new feature was introduced. Immediately upon the adjournment of the Council the companions repaired to the Sherman House, where they partook of a dinner and listened to the edifying addresses of Comps. Munn, Smith, Milligan, Goddard, Montgomery and

others. A pleasing incident of this gathering was the presence of Comp. R. C. Cabeen, the oldest anointed High Priest in Illinois, he having been consecrated to the Priesthood in 1854, one year before the organization of the Council. The address delivered upon this occasion by Comp. J. C. Smith is replete with much curious and valuable information. The occasion was graced by the attendance of many of the old Patriarchs, among whom were A. W. Blakesley, anointed 1857; Jno. M. Pearson and Silas O. Vaughan, of the vintage of 1859; J. R. Gorin, 1861; and W. M. Egan, 1862.

* * *

It has now come to be regarded as practically a matter of obligation for a High Priest to present himself for consecration at the earliest practicable moment after his election or installation. Mackey says, "It is the duty of every companion, as soon after his election to the office of High Priest as is consistent with his personal convenience, to apply for admission to the Order of High Priesthood, that he may be fully qualified properly to govern his chapter;" and the monitors generally reiterate this statement.

As a matter of fact, however, no duty of this character rests upon a High Priest elect, nor does the investiture impart any special qualifications. The General Grand Chapter, at its convocation in 1853, passed upon the question in the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That while, in deference to the long established usages of Royal Arch Masonry in this country, it is recommended that every newly elected High Priest should, as soon as it is convenient, receive the order of High Priesthood; his anointment as such is not necessary to his installation, or to the full and entire discharge of all his powers and duties as the presiding officer of his Chapter.

Nor is there any historical or legal precedent for the conferring of the degree in a regularly organized Council of High Priests. While the Grand Council of Illinois is venerable with years, and as such is entitled to our respect, yet its organization rests on no firmer a foundation than general consent. Mackey says, "The order should not be conferred when a less number than three duly qualified High Priests are present;" and further, that "the High Priest of every regular Royal Arch Chapter, having himself been duly qualified, can confer the order, under the preceding limitation as to number." He intimates, however, that it is desirable, when circumstances will permit, that it should be conferred by the Grand High Priest or some person deputized by him for the purpose.

The early conventions of High Priests in this jurisdiction were of a temporary character, organized for the purpose of the hour and dissolved as soon as the objects of the convention had been accomplished. Since 1855 the order has been controlled by the "Grand Council of High Priests of the State of Illinois," a permanent, constitutional organization, and under the rules of comity which now prevail in all of the recognized Masonic bodies, such organization must be regarded as having full and exclusive dominion over same. Grand Chapter has never made a ruling with respect to the Grand Council of High Priests, though it has continued to

James A. Hanley

recognize the body from its establishment, while the General Grand Chapter, at its session in 1853, decided "that it is not within the province or the control of this General Grand Chapter, or of any State Grand Chapter, to define the duties or powers of a Council of High Priests."

* * *

The symbolic design of this degree, as expounded by Mackey, appears to be to present to the candidate the bond of brotherly love which should unite those who, having been elevated to the highest station by their companions, are thus engaged in one common task of preserving the landmarks of the order unimpaired, and in protecting, by their high authority, the integrity and honor of the institution. Thus, separated from the general mass of laborers in the field of Masonry, and consecrated to a sacred mission as teachers of its glorious truths, those who sit in the tabernacle as the representatives of the ancient high priesthood, are, by the impressive ceremonies of this degree, reminded of the intimate friendship and fellowship which should exist between all those who have been honored with this distinguished privilege.

ASA W. BLAKESLEY.

Biographical Sketches

OF

PAST GRAND OFFICERS

OF THE

GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

By GIL. W. BARNARD.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF PAST GRAND OFFICERS

Let us drink, together, fellows, as we did in days of yore,
And still enjoy the golden hours that Fortune has in store,
The absent friends remembered be, in all that's sung or said,
And love immortal consecrate the memory of the Dead.

Fill every goblet to the brim—let every heart be filled
With kindly recollections, and all bitter ones be stilled;
Come round me, dear old fellows, and in chorus as we sing,
Life's Autumn days shall be as glad as were its days of Spring.

Drink, brothers, to the absent who are living, first of all,
While each familiar name and face we lovingly recall;
The generous and brave and good; the kind and frank and true,
Who knew not how false word to speak or what was base to do.

We see the faces of the dead; they hover in the air,
And looking on us lovingly, our mirth they seem to share;
O dearly loved, though ye have gone to other stars or spheres,
We still have for you thoughts of love and consecrated tears.

Pour a libation rich with love upon the graves that hold
The ashes of the gallant hearts that long ago grew cold;
And swear that never party feuds or civil war shall break
Our bonds of love, and enemies of friends and comrades make.

The dead are with us always, friends let us their teaching heed;
"Forgive thy brother, if he err," they eloquently plead;
"Let bygones be bygones," they cry; "let the old love revive,
And on the Altars of your hearts keep friendship's fire alive."

It is better far to love than hate, for Nations as for men;
Let us hope the old good-humor soon will bless the land again;
But if the politicians still should wrangle, scold and fight,
Their quarrels shall not break the ties that we reknit to-night.

Our Autumn days of life have come, the frosts begin to fall,
Beyond the dark, deep river, hark, we hear old comrades call.
To the Dead and Living whom each loves, let each his goblet fill;
And the memory of the Dead shall make the Living dearer still.

—Albert Pike.

WILLIAM B. WARREN.

Elected Grand High Priest at the Organization, April 9, 1850.

ON THE 12th day of April, 1865, Most Worshipful Bro. William B. Warren, Past Grand Master, departed this life. Bro. Warren was born in Kentucky, where he received all the degrees in Masonry, from Entered Apprentice to Knight Templar, and all the degrees in the Scotch Rite to the 32d. He was elected Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Illinois at its first permanent organization, which office he held until 1845, when he was succeeded by P. G. M. Lusk. After the disastrous explosion at Peoria, when the Archives of the Grand Lodge were destroyed, a Grand Lodge of Recovery was held at Springfield, when Bro. Warren was again elected Grand Secretary, a position which he held until the fall of 1851. In 1853, he was elected Grand Master, but, owing to ill health, he was not a candidate for re-election in 1854. He also served in other important positions, both in the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter. He served with distinction in the Mexican war, first as Major, and afterward Lieutenant Colonel, in the regiment commanded by Col. John J. Hardin. He was military governor of Saltillo when the lamented Hardin fell. After Bro. Warren returned from the Mexican war, he was elected clerk of the Supreme Court for the second Grand Division in Illinois, but declined a re-election on account of his failing health."—(Grand Lodge Proceedings.)

"Most Excellent Companion Wm. B. Warren, Past Grand High Priest, and the first Grand High Priest of this commonwealth, departed from his labors in this life to his rest in the Grand Chapter on high, at his residence, in the city of Jacksonville, on the 12th day of April, A. D. 1865, at the age of 63 years. Like a shock of corn fully ripe, he has been gathered to the Grand Council above. May his memory and virtues be cherished by this Grand Chapter. I trust that this Grand Chapter will recognize his merit by some fitting testimonial."—(Grand Chapter Proceedings, 1865.)

JOHN H. HOLTON.

Elected Grand High Priest October 14, 1850.

WE HAVE no record of this Companion after his service as Grand High Priest. His name disappears from his Chapter return and no mention of his presence in Grand Chapter is made. That he he is dead is all we have any record of.

GEORGE E. LOUNSBURY.

IN THE SWEET AND LONG AGO.

"Oft to me in silent hours
Comes a friend,
Gentle as the summer showers
In drops descend;
Leading where young life was made
More of sunshine than of shade;
Where time marked the moments slow
In the sweet and long ago.

"There unfading friendships cluster
Round each heart,
There renewal gives a luster
When we part.
Though the moments linger not
Round this fond sequestered spot,
Soft winds never cease to blow
To'ards the sweet and long ago.

"All the sweetness in life's measure
Left behind,
'Mong the leaves of childhood's pleasure
We can find.
In the haunts of memory's dream
Backward through life's winding stream,
For we see life all aglow
In the sweet and long ago.

"When with sorrow hearts are shaken,
Cold the world,
When youth sees old age is taken
To the mold,
Memory gathers hearts and hands,
Binds the wounds with silken bands;
Softly then comes music low
From the sweet and long ago."

JAMES V. Z. BLANEY.

Grand High Priest, 1851.

THIS distinguished craftsman was born in New Castle, Delaware, May 11, 1820, and died at Chicago, December 11, 1874. In 1856 he was elected Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, and in 1857 he was the first Grand Commander of Illinois. The same year he served as Most Ill. Grand Master of the Grand Council R. & S. M. In 1856 he was admitted to the A. A. S. Rite, and in 1867 he received the 33d degree in that Rite. In 1850 he was elected Deputy Grand High Priest, and in 1851 he was promoted to the highest position in this Grand Chapter.

He received a thorough literary, scientific and professional education, and in 1843 came to Chicago to engage in the practice of medicine. He at once took a high rank. He was appointed Professor of Chemistry in Rush Medical College in 1844, which position he continued to hold until disease compelled him to abandon all active work. He early became connected with the Masonic order. He was an early member of Oriental Lodge. He filled the offices of Master of the Lodge, High Priest of the Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, Thrice Illustrious of the Council of Royal and Select Masters, Commander of Apollo Commandery of Knights Templar. His Masonic knowledge, both of the Ritual and of the law, was accurate, and for many years, in the York Rite, he was regarded as the chief authority in the Northwest.

An eager desire to know, a passion for scientific truth, quickness of observation, readiness to grasp details, however intricate, rare talent for analysis or synthesis, and, with all a most retentive memory, were among the prominent endowments of his gifted mind. But not as the student, the thinker, the man of scientific attainments or professional superiority, was he appreciated by those who knew him best. He was emphatically a great-hearted man, overflowing with charity and goodwill, in most unstinted generosity and hospitality. He was the poor man's friend, the comforter and helper of the suffering and the unfortunate, never turning away or closing his heart against any appeal for aid. It was brotherliness that lent such a personal charm to his presence, and gave that refinement and courtesy and grace to his bearing everywhere. He was admired for his mental gifts and acquirements, but he was loved for his goodness.

WM. J. A. DeLANCEY.

LEVI LUSK.

Grand High Priest, 1852.

LEVI LUSK was born at New Hartford, in the State of New York, on the 10th of May, 1795; consequently he was over eighty-two years old at the time of his death, July 25, 1877. He died as he had lived, a firm believer in the teachings of the church with which he had been connected for fifty years.

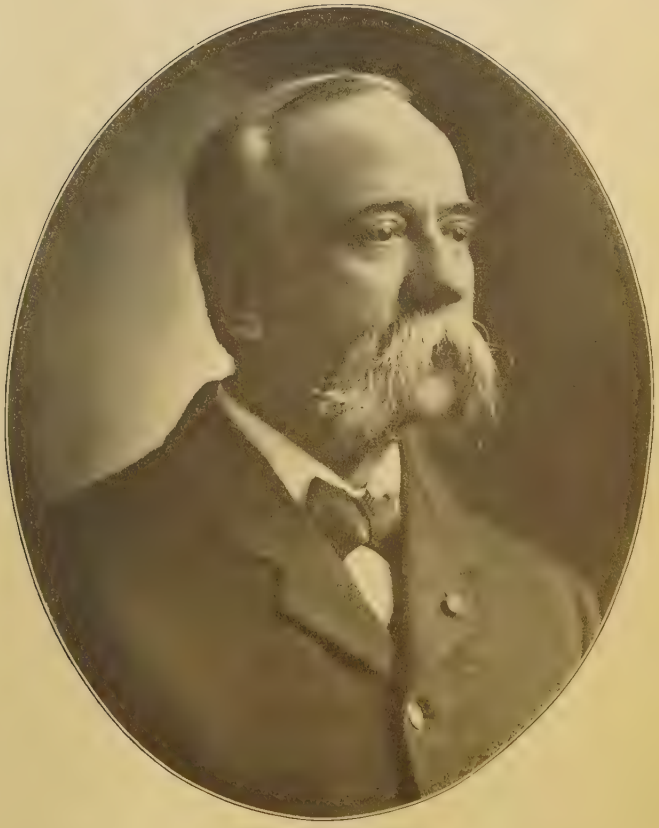
He was initiated in April, 1821, in Mt. Vernon Lodge No. 14, located at Georgetown, Kentucky, and soon after received the second and third degrees of Masonry. He filled various positions in the Lodge, and soon became proficient as a lecturer and worker in the great cause of Masonry. In 1842 he, with six other brethren, received a dispensation to open a Lodge at Rushville, Illinois, of which he became the first Master. In 1843 he was elected Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, and in 1844 Grand Master. In 1845 he was elected Grand Secretary, and re-elected in 1846. During his connection with the Grand Lodge, among others, besides those already named, he filled the following positions: Was Grand Lecturer 1843, 1844, 1859 and 1862; was a member of the Committee on Appeals and Grievances in 1843, of Obituaries in 1862, of Jurisprudence from 1857 to 1864, of Foreign Correspondence in 1844, 1846 and 1847, of Library in 1867 and 1868, of Lodges U. D. in 1854, 1856, 1857, 1858, and 1859, on Grand Master's Address in 1851 and 1854. In all these positions he was a zealous worker, and has left the impress of his labors in the records of the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

He received the Chapter degrees in Georgetown, Kentucky, and filled many positions in that Chapter before his removal to Illinois. He was also Deputy Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky. He also filled the offices of Grand Treasurer and Grand King. After his removal to Illinois he, with others, organized Rushville Chapter, of which he was High Priest for most of the time since its organization. He was Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Illinois, and one of its original members. Bro. Lusk also received the degrees of Cryptic Masonry, and wrought his regular hours in the secret vault. He also received the Order of the Temple, but does not seem to have made much proficiency in Templar Masonry. Taken as a whole, his Masonic life was full of labor, and in every position he seems to have earned the respect and esteem of his Masonic brethren, and his memory will long be cherished by a large circle of friends and acquaintances, and more especially by the Masonic fraternity, with which he was so long connected.

MICHAEL J. NOYES.

Grand High Priest, 1853.

COMP. NOYES was born at Landaff, Grafton county, N. H., March 30, 1791, and died at his residence, in Pittsfield, Ill., April 29, 1867, at the ripe old age of 76 years, and was buried with Masonic honors, attended by a large concourse of Masons and citizens. He was made a Mason in Charity Lodge, at Newberry, Vt., in 1812, at the age of 21 years. He received the Chapter and Council degrees at Hannibal, Mo., and the orders of knighthood and Scottish Rite degrees in Chicago. He was the first Master of Pittsfield Lodge No. 56, and was Master of that Lodge for seven years—being its Master at the time of his death. He was appointed High Priest of Union Chapter, U. D., in 1850, and served as such until 1867 with the exception of one year. In 1851 he was elected Grand King, and in 1853 Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Illinois. For many years he was Vice-President of the Grand Council of High Priests, and in 1864 was elected President, which position he continued to fill until his decease. Thus, during a long and useful life, he was ever devoted to the interests of Masonry, remaining faithful during the darkest and most trying history of our Order, and proving a tower of strength to the young and weak-hearted. He was a man of noble and generous impulses—a warm-hearted and faithful friend and brother—to whom all could appeal for sympathy and counsel, and none was sent empty away. But far better and above all, our departed brother was a humble and sincere Christian, standing ready and prepared to answer that summons we must all sooner or later obey; and when the cold dews of death already glistened on his forehead he was still mindful of his brethren, and while they were grouped around his bedside he gave them sweet words of counsel and encouragement, and showed them that death had no terrors to him, but relying upon the mercy of a crucified Redeemer, he gladly took his departure hence.



HASWELL C. CLARKE.

LOUIS WATSON.

Grand High Priest, 1854.

LOUIS WATSON, Past Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter, died at Ellis, Kansas, September 22, 1894. Companion Watson was born in Connecticut in 1817, and came to Quincy in 1845, where he practiced medicine with credit until the spring of 1861, when he was appointed Surgeon of the Sixteenth Illinois Volunteers. During his term of service he became medical director in charge of the hospitals at Nashville, Tennessee. At the close of the war he returned to Quincy and resumed the practice of his profession until 1872, when he went to Kansas in the employ of the Kansas Pacific Railroad, and superintended the planting of trees along the right-of-way in the so-called desert regions of the great western plains. He subsequently made his home at Ellis, where he passed away.

Companion Watson was a zealous Mason and an honorable, upright man, who enjoyed the love and esteem of acquaintances, and particularly of his brethren of the mystic tie. He was made a Mason in Springfield Lodge No. 4, in 1844, and affiliated with Bodley Lodge at Quincy, in 1845, retaining his membership in that Lodge until dimitted to the Lodge above, serving the Lodge as Worshipful Master. He was exalted in Quincy Chapter No. 5, July 2, 1846, while the chapter was working under dispensation from the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and became one of the charter members under the charter of 1847 from that body. Quincy Chapter sent him as one of its representatives to the convention which organized this Grand Chapter in 1850. At the Convocation of the Grand Chapter in 1854 Companion Watson was chosen Grand High Priest, and he served the Craft with credit to himself and honor to the fraternity.

The remains of Companion Watson were brought to Quincy and laid to rest in beautiful Woodlawn cemetery by the hands of the brethren of Bodley Lodge.

Thus closes the career of one of the fathers of Masonry in Illinois who left their impress upon the character of the institution in this State. A good man and true, he exemplified the teachings of Masonry in his daily life and made its name honorable among men. At the end of this well-spent life his Companions honor themselves by the respect shown his memory.—(Obituary report in Grand Chapter.)

IRA A. W. BUCK.

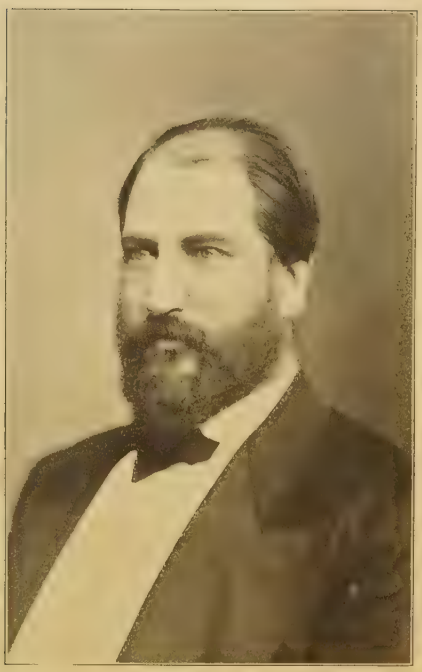
Grand High Priest, 1855.

THE date of birth of this Companion is unknown to the writer, but his Masonic career began in Jerusalem Temple Lodge No. 90 at Aurora, Illinois, August 27, 1850, and in 1858, 1859 and 1860 he was Grand Master of our Grand Lodge, and in 1855 he served as Grand High Priest and was also an officer in the General Grand Chapter, U. S. A. Only five years from Entered Apprentice to Grand High Priest and eight years to Grand Master in so large a jurisdiction as ours, indicates a strength of character and degree of fitness possessed by few.

He studied medicine and commenced practice in Aurora, but was better known in the business world as a large contractor of public works.

Companion Buck had of late years made his home in Chicago, where he enjoyed the friendship of a large circle of our citizens, who esteemed him highly for his social and professional attainments. On the 12th of October, 1886, after a long and painful illness—the week following the session of the Grand Lodge—Companion Buck breathed his last, having lived a pure and estimable life of almost three score years and ten.

"Alas, that change should work in grievous ways,
Through all endeavors of our mortal days;
Alas, that those about whose presence we
Hold tenure by Affection's deepest fee
Should leave us, failing from the living needs,
Naught but a memory of their gracious deeds.
Ah, what may we from year to year do more,
In witnessing the Past repeated o'er,
They say, reviewing each familiar scene,
O friend, for aye, we'll keep your memory green."



ARTHUR R. H. ATKINS.

EDWARD M. M. CLARKE.

Grand High Priest, 1856.

COMPANION CLARKE was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., April 13, 1804, where he resided until 1840, when he came west and for a time resided in Jacksonville and Rushville, finally settling in Lewistown in 1868, and remained there until his death in 1885. He graduated from Columbia College and entered the profession of the law, which he practiced for many years. January 29, 1829, he was married to Miss Elizabeth K. Kingsbury, with whom he lived until his decease, and who survived him until May, 1900.

His life was quiet for many years and his intercourse with men was characterized by the marked and stately courtesy which belonged to an older generation of gentlemen. He was a communicant of the Episcopal Church for over sixty years, and was a devout and reverent Christian.

Of his Masonic record little can be discovered, but he was Master of Nassau Lodge, A. F. & A. M., in Brooklyn, N. Y., during the Morgan excitement, and was an active and efficient officer. He was P. H. P. of Stapleton Chapter No. 9, Rushville, Illinois, and was elected Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter in 1856, and Grand Master of the Grand Council, R. & S. M., of this State the same year.

"EVEN THIS SHALL PASS AWAY."

"The seasons come, the seasons go,
The crocus dies, the roses blow;
The quiet, sunny summer noon
To winter's cold shall change full soon.
Say not 'Alas!'
For all things pass.

"This day thy feet may firmly tread
Where they who loved thee once lie dead;
The child who clings to thy strong hand
Tomorrow in thy place shall stand.
Say not 'Alas!'
For thou must pass.

"But when the phantom, Death, draws near,
Breathe thou no sigh and shed no tear;
Look upward with unfailing trust
To Him who knoweth thou art dust.
Say not 'Alas!'
For Death shall pass."

JAMES H. HIBBARD.

Grand High Priest, 1857 and 1862.

OUR beloved companion was the only child of R. W. Bro. Elias Hibbard, of Alton, Past Deputy Grand Master, and was born in the State of Mississippi in 1827, but was educated and reared mainly at Upper Alton, in this State, where he received a good education. He died on the 14th of May, 1866, after a short and severe illness, aged 39 years.

For many years he was engaged in the book and paper trade, was several years City Clerk and Alderman, and the head and active member of the Fire Department.

About the year 1852 he married a niece of Judge Bailhache, and left her and two children to mourn his untimely death.

The subject of this sketch was initiated in Piasa Lodge No. 27, June 17, passed July 1, and raised July 22, 1851, and soon after received the Capitular degrees in Alton Chapter No. 8, and the Council degrees in Springfield Council No. 2. The Commandery orders were conferred on him in Belvidere Commandery at Alton during the session of the Grand Commandery in that city, in 1858, by Grand Commander Blaney.

He served several years in the positions of Senior Deacon, Junior Warden, and Master in Piasa Lodge, in several subordinate capacities in Alton, and as High Priest of both Alton and Franklin Chapters.

He was the first deputy, and the second Master of Alton Council, a position which he held at the time of his death.

He also served Belvidere Commandery as Prelate and Commander.

The Grand Lodge elected him Senior Grand Warden in 1854, Deputy in 1855, and Grand Master in 1856; the Grand Chapter elected him Grand Treasurer in 1853, Grand Captain of the Host in 1855, Deputy in 1856, and Grand High Priest in 1857 and 1863.

The Grand Council elected him Grand Puissant upon its organization in 1853, and again in 1854.

In the Grand Commandery he served as Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Generalissimo, and Deputy Grand Commander.

As a nervous, accurate and willing workman in all degrees and orders of Masonry, he had no superiors. In all the grand and subordinate bodies he presided with readiness and skill, while he was equally useful in any and every subordinate position. In all the relations of life our beloved and Most Excellent Companion was an accommodating, genial, loving husband, father, son, brother and friend. Very early in life he has left thousands of brethren and companions to mourn his early departure, crowned with nearly every honor in their power to bestow. The lesson is a solemn admonition to every Mason.

NELSON D. ELWOOD.

Grand High Priest, 1858, 1859, 1860.

THIS Companion was born in Otsego county, N. Y., November 23, 1818. We know nothing of his boyhood life, save that he was raised to habits of industry, and that he obtained the greater portion of a fine education mainly by his own exertions. He settled at Joliet in 1837, and was employed as an engineer upon the works at that point in the Illinois and Michigan canal. They are and will be for long years to come, proud evidences of the skill and learning of the youthful pioneer. Soon after, he intermarried with Miss Juliet L., daughter of Comp. Joel M. Parks, who officiated as Secretary of the Royal Arch Chapter at Lockport, N. Y., during the entire period of the Morgan excitement. After Comp. Elwood's labors ceased upon the public works, he was elected clerk of the County Court of Will county, and Assistant Secretary of the Senate. Upon retiring from these positions, he engaged in the active business of the law profession in connection with his brother-in-law, Hon. G. D. A. Parks, and was in the enjoyment of a large and lucrative business at the time of his decease. The Legislature at its session in 1857, located the State penitentiary near Joliet, and appointed him one of the Commissioners to superintend the building, which position, as well as that of Secretary to the Board, he filled until all his labors here ceased, which was on February 26, 1861.

As a citizen he was unwearied in his efforts to foster every laudable enterprise, whether public or private. In matters of benevolence, charity or distress, he could not, and did not, whatever might be his necessities and engagements, refuse aid, relief, advice, attention or kindly sympathy.

In each and in all of the attributes which constitute a good husband and a good father, he largely excelled. He never made covenants to break them, nor assumed responsibilities to avoid them. By no word or look would he unnecessarily wound the feelings of any one, friend, neighbor or stranger, much less any of his own household. Between him and his wife, and between them and their children, there existed the most sympathetic and endearing confidence and love. Yet there was something in the manner of the man, and in the look of the eye, that so impressed those owing him obedience, that they always rendered it, and never questioned either his will or power to exact it. His attachments to his brethren and friends were uncommonly great, but his attachments to home equaled Jonathan's love for David. Hence, in the hours of sickness, he was at the bedside, as watcher, nurse or comforter. The loss

of his children was to him a terrible calamity, yet he quietly and patiently fulfilled the duties of mourner or consoler. In this respect, both husband and wife suffered greatly. One by one, they laid five beautiful and promising boys in Oakwood cemetery, now his own beautiful and last resting place. One son, J. G. Elwood, of all his children, alone survives. He inherits the characteristics and features of both parents, and is one of the most useful and prominent citizens of the city of Joliet.

M. E. Comp. Elwood was initiated in Mount Joliet Lodge No. 42, April 15, 1848; exalted in LaFayette Chapter No. 2, May 24, 1852; made Select Master in Chicago Council No. 4, 1858; Knighted in Apollo Commandery some time before, and received the Ineffable degrees April 7 of the same year. He was the first Senior Warden of Matteson Lodge, No. 175, the first High Priest of Joliet Chapter, No. 27, and the first Commander of Joliet Commandery No. 4, and was Deputy Grand Commander at the time of his death. He was elected Grand High Priest in 1858, 1859 and 1860. As a workman, he excelled. As a presiding officer, he was eminently modest, but firm, temperate, courteous and considerate. Among his brethren he was polite and gentlemanly, full of good humor, pleasant wit, and maintained and kept alive a pleasant and playful equality among them.

JOHN D. HAMILTON.

WILLIAM W. MITCHELL.

Grand High Priest, 1861.

WILLIAM W. MITCHELL, Grand High Priest, 1861, who died at Chicago, April 8, 1865, aged 41 years, was Grand King in 1857, Deputy Grand High Priest during 1858, 1859, 1860, and in 1861 was Grand High Priest.

"By his warm-heartedness, genial disposition and gentlemanly deportment, he won the regard of his brethren. Let his virtues remain upon perpetual record."

"In life's gay morn what vivid hues
Adorn the animating views,
By flattering fancy drawn!
No storms with gloomy aspect rife,
To cloud the azure of the skies,
No mists obscure the dawn.

"With looks invariably gay,
Young expectation points the way
To ever blissful shades,
Where odors scent the breath of morn,
Where roses bloom without a thorn,
And music fills the glades.

"Enraptured with the distant view,
Youth thinks its fictitious beauties true,
And springs the prize to gain;
His grasp the gay illusion flies:
Experience thus the cheat descries,
And proves his hopes were vain.

"The path of life though flowers adorn,
Yet often will the rugged thorn
Amidst the flowers arise;
Expect not then on earth to share
Enjoyment unalloyed by care,
But seek it in the skies."

HIRAM W. HUBBARD.

Grand High Priest, 1863.

BORN in Litchfield, Conn., October 4, 1819. Died at his home in Centralia, Ill., January 20, 1885. He had been Master of three different Lodges; H. P. of four Chapters; T. Ill. of two Councils, and E. C. of three Commanderies. Grand High Priest, Grand Thrice Ill. and Grand Commander of those Grand bodies in Illinois.

The following from the pen of M. W. Bro. Theodore T. Gurney is what we all thought and felt:

"In our thoughts we sit, with the Companions of Illinois, beside the last earthly resting place of Most Excellent Companion, Hiram W. Hubbard, Past Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter. For nearly thirty years, the majority of us have traveled the fraternal journey of life with this loved Companion. We have known him in victory and defeat, and in joy and sorrow, but cannot bring to mind an instance when he was so far forgetful of his relations to a brother, that he permitted anger or vindictiveness to usurp the place of fraternal regard, though the shafts of unfriendly criticism may have been painful and unjust. His last words are the words of a Mason: 'I die without a rancorous feeling toward a single human being.' The fraternal characteristics of Companion Hubbard were rooted in his unreserved faith in God, consequently duty was an obligation to which loving obedience responded with alacrity.

"Our revered brother lived to live again. As a citizen he was esteemed, by his church honored, and as a husband and father, beloved. It would be impossible to gauge his usefulness to the circle in which he moved, by any measurement that human judgment can devise; but when we once more stand face to face with him, it will be unfolded to us the fruitage of a life consecrated to Faith, Hope and Charity. Beside the tomb of such a man is the time for meditation, if the living future is to be benefited by our existence.

"Companion Hubbard was largely known as a Chapter Ritualist, rarely equaled but never excelled. His kindly disposition and suave manner added an inexpressible charm to whatever position he was then placed—whether as a presiding officer or as a guide from Babylon to Jerusalem, he impressed his sincerity upon both candidates and Companions as thoroughly as did his private and public life leave their beneficent influences upon those with whom he was associated.

"It is not long, Companions, till we may meet him again—not long before many a noble manhood, now radiant with the sequences of a true fraternal life, shall stand with him within the courts of the spiritual building on high, thanking the Father for an institution that has led to His presence in life, and to the glad rewards of the future."

WILEY M. EGAN.

Grand High Priest, 1864.

THIS genial and ever pleasant Frater was born in Ballston, N. Y., August 1, 1827, and removed to Chicago October 9, 1836, with his parents. In 1855 he was "brought to light" in Free Masonry in Garden City Lodge, No. 141, from which Lodge he dimitted in 1856 for the purpose of assisting in the organization of Cleveland Lodge, No. 211, which Lodge was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Illinois on October 3 of that year. In Cleveland Lodge he served as Junior and Senior Warden, and as Master in 1859-60. February 23, 1857, he journeyed over the "rough and rugged" road of the Royal Arch in La-Fayette Chapter, No. 2, and in 1858 he united in forming Washington Chapter, No. 43, which was chartered that year. He served in that body as King, and as High Priest in 1861-62-63. In 1864 he was elected Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois. He passed the Circle in Chicago Council, No. 4, R. & S. M., July 16, 1861.

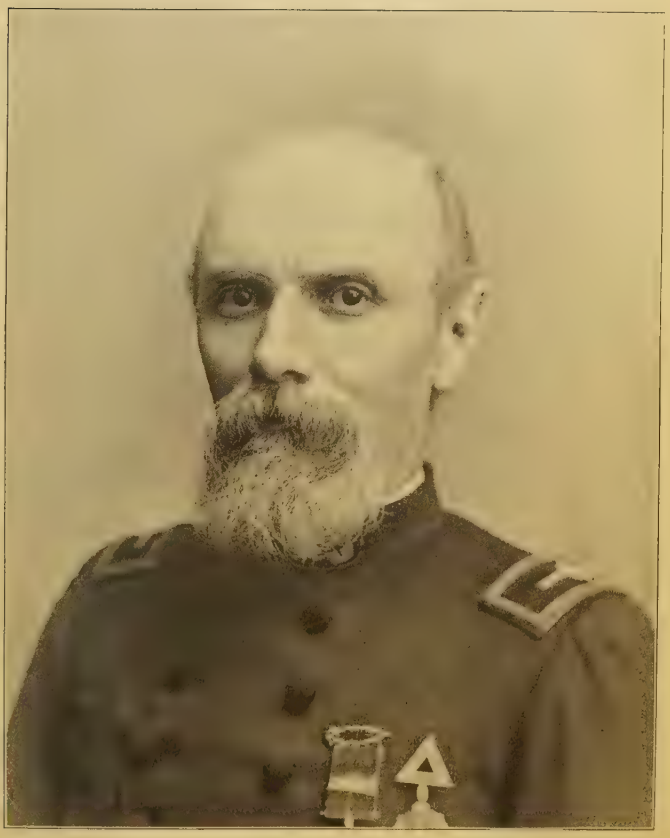
October 27, 1857, he was vowed to the support of Christian Knighthood in Apollo Commandery, No. 1, K. T., where he filled the offices of C. G. and Gen., when in 1866 he dimitted to assist in organizing Chicago Commandery, No. 19, K. T., of which organization he was the first Commander, serving two years in that position. October, 1871, he was elected Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery. The Grades and Orders of the A.·. A.·. Scottish Rite were conferred on him by Illustrious Prince Killian H. Van Rensselaer in April, 1864, and he is now a life member of Oriental Consistory, S. . P.·. R.·. S.·., in Chicago.

At Cincinnati, Ohio, June 18, 1870, he was crowned an Honorary Member of the Supreme Council, 33d degree. On May 31, 1880, after the decease of R. W. Bro. Orlin H. Miner, he was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by such death, in the offices of Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and Grand Chapter, R. A. M. At the subsequent Annual Meetings he was elected to the above offices, and has been re-elected at each Annual ever since, and so long as he will accept, he will continue in said positions. Our distinguished Frater was married November 28, 1849, to Miss Mary P. Helm, who was born in the town of Essex, N. Y., January 10, 1828. A happy married life has followed this union, during which time five children have come as blessings of love to the family. Brother Egan was President of the Board of Trade of the City of Chicago, 1867-68.

In 1871 he was elected a member of the General Assembly of Illinois from the Ninety-fifth District, in which body his extensive business ex-

perience and sound judgment made his services of great value in forming and enacting the first laws under the new Constitution for the State, which was adopted in 1870. He has been identified with the commerce of the lakes since 1842, as sailor and master of vessels until 1853, and as owner of sail and steam vessels from that time to the present. He has built and owned many of the best vessels on the lakes. Since 1856 he has been principally engaged in the management of his own vessels, and the transaction of marine insurance. As a commission merchant he has during several years of this time shipped over 15,000,000 bushels of grain per year. In commercial parlance it may safely be said that his paper has never been dishonored. Whenever the Captain has been accused of being above want, he replies, "I am poor, but bring on your bills, and if correct you will get your money."

Mrs. Egan comes from strong old Scotch Presbyterian stock, and she and the Captain have been for many years active workers in all that assisted to build up the welfare of Union Park Congregational Church, where both are worshipers, and closely identified with its success. May they long continue such, is the hope and wish of all who know them.



SAMUEL W. WADDLE.

LOYAL LEVI MUNN.

Grand High Priest, 1865.

M. E. COMP. MUNN was made a Mason in Excelsior Lodge, No. 97, F. & A. M., and was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason October 27, 1853. He was exalted to the Royal Arch in Freeport Chapter, No. 23, June 27, 1856, and received the degrees of Royal and Select Masters in Springfield Council of Springfield, Illinois, in 1862. He was dubbed and created a Knight Templar in March, 1857, in Janesville Commandery, No. 2, of Janesville, Wisconsin, and received the degrees and grades of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, 32d degree, in April, 1864. He was crowned a Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the 33d and last degree of Masonry, and made an Honorary Member of the Supreme Council for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, U. S. A., June 18, 1870, at the session of that body held in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio. He has been honored with various official positions, has filled all the offices in the blue lodge, chapter and commandery, and is Past Commander-in-Chief of Freeport Consistory, S. P. R. S., 32d degree, located in the valley of Freeport. In 1865-66 he was Most Excellent Grand High Priest of Royal Arch Masons of Illinois, and has been President of the Order of High Priesthood continuously from 1867 up to the present time. He was also Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Knights Templar of Illinois in 1881. His service for twelve years as Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge was most capable and received the highest commendation of all connected with the fraternity.

Mr. Munn is a native of Madrid, St. Lawrence county, New York, born September 1, 1829, a son of Abel and Susanna (Barnum) Munn. The subject of this review acquired his early education in his native town, and when seventeen years of age came to Freeport, Illinois, having now made his home in Stephenson county for half a century. For three summers he was engaged in farm work, and during that time spent the winter season in attendance on the public schools. He afterward engaged in school teaching in the northern part of the county, and in 1850 became the agent of several New York insurance companies for the States of Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin and Indiana. He has for many years been a most prominent factor in the commercial and industrial interests of Freeport, and has been the leading spirit of many enterprises which have materially promoted the welfare and prosperity of the city.

Perhaps the true character of the man, however, is seen in his home, where he is the tender husband and father, the gracious host, and the courteous, genial gentleman. He was married in 1857 to Miss Lenora Lott. Her married life, however, was soon terminated by death, and in 1861 he wedded Mrs. Mary Louisa Hardy, a native of Haverhill, New Hampshire, who in her maidenhood was Miss Ladd. Their family includes four children.

ORLIN H. MINER.

Grand High Priest, 1866.

M. E. COMP. ORLIN H. MINER was born in Wells, Vermont, May 24, 1825. In 1834 he removed with his parents to Ohio, and in 1852 he came to this State, locating in Springfield in 1853, where he resided until May 27, 1880, when he was called from labor to rest at the age of 55 years. Comp. Miner was made a Mason in Columbus Lodge, No. 30, 1849. He received the Capitular degrees of Masonry in Lancaster Chapter, No. 11, November 20, and the Cryptic degrees in Lancaster Council, No. 33, December 7, 1849, Lancaster, Ohio. He received the orders of Knighthood in Ellwood Commandery, No. 6, K. T., December 12, 1863, and in April, 1866, he received the Consistory degrees up to and including the 32d degree in Occidental Consistory, Chicago, Illinois. The 33d and last degree of Scottish Rite Masonry was conferred on him by the Supreme Council at a meeting held at Chicago, June 28, 1872. He was the first Master of Tyrian Lodge, No. 333, Springfield, Ill., filling that important office with distinguished ability for ten consecutive years. He was High Priest of Springfield Chapter, No. 1, R. A. Masons, for several years; also T. I. G. Master of Springfield Council, No. 2, Royal and Select Masters. In 1863 he was elected and served as Most Puissant Grand Master of the Grand Council of Illinois. In 1866 he served this Grand Chapter and the Royal Craft of Illinois with great acceptance, as Most Excellent Grand High Priest. In 1868 he was elected Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, serving the Craft in that important position for five years, when failing health compelled him to decline a further election. Having in a measure been restored to health, he was in 1878 appointed Grand Treasurer of this Grand Chapter, and also of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, which several positions he held to the day of his death. Comp. Miner also filled many positions of honor and trust in civil life, ever discharging the duties devolving upon him honestly and faithfully, and to the entire satisfaction of the public. For many years he was Chief Clerk in the State Auditor's office, and in 1864 he was elected by the people of Illinois to that highly honorable and important office, which he filled for four years with distinguished ability. He was a man of more than ordinary capabilities, of a noble, generous disposition, with a kindness of heart that endeared him to all with whom he was associated. His distinguishing characteristic was truth, and your Committee think that it may truly be said of him that he was one of "the noblest works of God, an honest man." He died at Springfield, Ill., May 20, 1880, and was buried by Tyrian Lodge, No. 333, M. W. Grand Master T. T. Gurney officiating. In his death the Craft have met an irreparable loss. His was a character to respect, love and honor—one that will grow in brightness until the perfect day. In beautiful Oakridge Cemetery, beneath the shadows of the Lincoln Monument, Comp. Miner calmly sleeps, awaiting the summons of the Grand Architect of the Universe.

SILAS O. VAUGHAN.

GEORGE W. LININGER.

Grand High Priest, 1867.

THE subject of this sketch was born in Franklin county, Pa., December 14, 1834, and removed to Peru, Illinois, in 1848. He became a Mason on July 17, 1856, in St. John's Lodge, No. 13, A. F. & A. M., in Peru, and was made a R. A. M. in Cement Chapter, No. 58, at Utica, and received the Council degrees in Springfield Council, No. 2, on September 28, 1861. May 14, 1861, he was created a Knight Templar in Ottawa Commandery, No. 10. He served in St. John's Lodge in the subordinate offices, and was W. M. for several years, being noted for his excellent executive ability. He was the master spirit in organizing Peru Chapter, No. 60, of which he was the first High Priest. And the same is true of his connection with Peru Council, R. & S. M. He served as E. C. of Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, and St. John Commandery, No. 26, K. T., at Peru, is another organization largely due to his zeal and industry in the Masonic vineyard. From 1861 he was an active member and officer in our Grand Chapter until 1867, when he was elected Grand High Priest.

On account of poor health he removed from Peru, Illinois, in 1868 to Council Bluffs, Iowa, where he resided for five years, during which period he organized Excelsior Lodge, Star Chapter and Ivanhoe Commandery, and was prominent in the Grand bodies of that State as Grand Senior Warden in Grand Lodge, Deputy Grand Commander and Grand C. of G. in Grand Council. January 1, 1874, he removed to Omaha, Nebraska, where he now resides.

The same activity has prompted his work in that State in all matters pertaining to our institutions, as it did in Illinois and Iowa. He has been Grand Master of Grand Lodge and Grand Commander, but the duties of those offices are light in comparison with his efficient record in discharging the many minor but equally important duties in Lodges, Chapters, Councils and Commanderies as a ritualist, drill master and expounder of Masonic jurisprudence. With all this he has carried on successfully a large and remunerative implement business, and finding time to make extensive trips to Europe and other countries.

To the establishment of the Lininger Art Gallery in the city of Omaha, he has given much time and wealth, and is justly proud of the prominent position it has attained in the city of his home. A citizen of integrity, doing a business of one million dollars a year, he naturally has received many political and social honors, which show the respect and confidence of his fellow citizens. Honors worthily worn, respect well deserved, and confidences never betrayed.

JAMES H. MILES.

Grand High Priest, 1868.

E. COMPANION JAMES H. MILES, born at Athens, Ohio, March 15, 1826. Died at his home in Chicago, February 17, 1893. This Companion affiliated with Apollo Commandery, No. 1, K. T., on September 12, 1856, was its Recorder for some time, and held the office of Eminent Commander during the years 1872 and 1873. For twelve years he was Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery, K. T., of Illinois.

He served in various places in the Grand Council, R. & S. Masters, and in 1865 was elected Grand Master. From 1871 to 1877 he was its Grand Recorder.

In Capitular Masonry Companion Miles was particularly interesting as a Ritualist. As a teacher and expounder in the several degrees in the Royal Arch Chapter he had no superior in his day.

As High Priest of LaFayette Chapter, No. 2, R. A. M., he took a commanding place in the Grand Chapter, where, after serving in many subordinate chairs, was elected Grand High Priest in 1868, and the following year was elected as its Grand Secretary, serving until 1878.

Thus it will be seen that the deceased had for more than twenty years held a prominent place in the work of our Order.

Bro. Miles was ever painstaking as an officer, and as correct as a Ritualist as he was in business.

He was reserved in manner, and had but little personal magnetism, but was always honest and fearless in the discharge of any duty.

For many years he had not taken any interest in the Order, hence was but little known to the younger members of the Rite.

He leaves a wife and three grown children to mourn his loss; let us give them our tenderest sympathy in their bereavement.

"Alas, alas, great past!
Some remember a hand which they cannot now feel;
A voice which with kindness was wont to appeal."

"Just as God leads me I will go,
I do not ask to choose my way,
Content with what He doth bestow,
I know He will not let me stray;
So as He leads, my steps I take,
A child—in Him confiding."

JOHN P. NORVELL.

JOHN M. PEARSON.

Grand High Priest, 1869.

THIS distinguished Frater was born in Newburyport, Mass., October 7, 1832. His ancestors were from England, landing in 1637, and constructing the first flouring and fulling mills ever known to the locality. He "fitted for Harvard" in the public schools of his native town, and studied as civil engineer. For several years he was professionally employed upon the various railroads of Massachusetts in and about Lowell, but sought a wider grade of usefulness by immigrating to Illinois in 1849. In 1855, November 15, he was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Godfrey, daughter of the late Captain Benjamin Godfrey, after whom the town in which Comp. Pearson now resides was named. Ten years later he abandoned other pursuits and became an agriculturist, and expects to live and die upon his "broad acres."

Companion Pearson is a marked character. His intercourse with men leaves the impression of a sturdy, fixed, irreproachable manhood. His early education fitted him for many positions in civil life that he had declined, but he was induced in 1873 to accept the State position of Railroad and Warehouse Commissioner. To the duties of this important office he devoted the energies of a positive nature, and retired after four years of unremitting industry in the welfare of both corporations and citizens. Companion Pearson is one of the few in responsible and onerous public positions that retires therefrom without remote suspicion of wrong attaching to his good name. An unselfish devotion in the varied departments of life to the welfare of the people with whom he is daily associated placed him many years since in the Legislature of Illinois, and there is no person that knows him in that relation to the public that will not concede to him unswerving integrity and large legislative capacity.

It is in the great Brotherhood, however, that we know him best. He was made a Master Mason in 1854, united with the Chapter the same year, with the Council in 1855, the Commandery in 1857, and with the Scottish Rite bodies of Chicago in 1882. His Masonic affiliations are in Alton. He was soon called to preside over the first four organizations named, and subsequently became Grand High Priest, M. P. of the Grand Council and Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery. In each and all of these stations he received the commendations of his brethren for zeal, tact and commanding ability. Companion Pearson is rarely, if ever, absent from the meetings of the Grand Bodies. His presence is an assurance that forms and principles in legislation will be insisted upon, and that a ques-

tion will not be disposed of except it be thoroughly canvassed and understood. At the session of our Grand Lodge in 1884, he was installed Junior Grand Warden, and the same year the Supreme Council of the A. A. S. Rite for the Northern Jurisdiction of the United States honored itself by electing him an honorary member thereof. He served as Senior Grand Warden, Deputy G. M., and in 1890 and 1891 presided in the Grand East.

He is an important factor in the Masonry of our jurisdiction, and graces every position assigned him. In private and social life he is the synonym of his Masonic professions, thus commanding the respect and love of the Fraternity, and the confidence of all who know him in the other departments of life.

After twenty-one years' service in the affairs of our State government, aside from local positions of trust, he is now resting, watching and waiting; strong in the faith that much good remains to be done by our land and by our Order.

SAMUEL SHANNON.

AUGUSTUS A. MURRAY.

Grand High Priest, 1870.

COMPANION MURRAY was made a Mason in Ionic Lodge, No. 312, September 12, 1859, exalted in Macon Chapter, No. 21, January 19, 1863, Passed the Circle in Decatur Council, No. 16, R. & S. M., January 16, 1868, and was Knighted a Templar January 27, 1865, in Beaumanoir Commandery, No. 9, K. T., all at Decatur, Illinois. His interest in the fraternity and usefulness to the Craft is best shown by record of service in above bodies, viz.: Master, seven years; High Priest, sixteen years; T. I. Master, eleven years, and Eminent Commander, eight years.

During the above period he was District D. G. Master ten years, and served through the line of office in our Grand Chapter, being Grand High Priest in 1870 and also Grand Master of our Grand Council, R. & S. M., in 1878.

He was born in Jefferson county, New York, and resided at Decatur, in this State, for many years, most of the time being engaged in the sale of agricultural implements, although his fellow-citizens chose him for Sheriff of Macon county from 1866 to 1870. In his later years he lived at Valley Falls, Kansas, where he was engaged in farming. He passed the Veils of the Supreme Sanctuary above May 11, 1898.

"Give them the meed they have won in the past,
Give them the honors their merit forecast;
Give them the chaplets they have won in the strife,
Give them the laurels they lost with their life;
Cover them over with beautiful flowers,
Deck them with garlands, those brothers of ours."

"It is better to weave in the web of life,
A bright and golden filling,
And do God's will with a loving heart,
And hands that are swift and willing,
Than to snap the delicate silver threads
Of our curious lives asunder,
And then blame Heaven for the tangled ends,
Or sit to grieve and wonder."

JAMES A. HAWLEY.

Grand High Priest, 1871.

AN EVENT which severs ties that have existed for more than a third of a century demands that we should pause in our employment and thoughts to note the qualities of character which won the confidence, love and esteem for him who has gone from us forever in the earthly life to be crowned with life eternal in the heavenly kingdom as a reward for faithful service in the Master's vineyard.

Illustrious Brother James Andrew Hawley was born in Webster, Monroe county, N. Y., August 20, 1830. Was educated in Genesee Wesleyan Seminary at Lima, now Genesee College, finishing his education in Rochester Institute, following which he was for some time engaged in teaching school, but shortly thereafter removed to Illinois and settled at Lee Center, where his ability and influence were soon felt and resulted in his election to the office of County Superintendent of Schools, in which he rendered signal service in the cause of education and the establishment of our free school system.

In 1855 he removed to Dixon, Illinois, identifying himself with its business interests until 1861, when he was elected County Clerk, to which position he devoted the best energies of his rich mind in so conducting its business affairs as to command the admiration and confidence of every one with whom he came in contact, and the universal satisfaction with which he administered this public trust is best expressed by the knowledge that he was re-elected from term to term until he had served twenty-one consecutive years, and then retired only by reason of his declination of further service.

As County Clerk for twenty-one years, member of the Board of Education for ten years, Mayor of Dixon for two years, as Cashier of the Dixon National Bank for fifteen years, as one of the organizers of the Dixon Water Company, its first President and at the time of his death its Secretary and Treasurer, together with his interest in many public and private improvements, have so identified him with the history and upbuilding of the city of his adoption as to make his work and influence a power for good to all who may have been so fortunate as to have their lot cast among the pleasant memories and beneath the shadow of his love and labor.

Brother Hawley was married to Miss Mary Augusta Gardner on June 20, 1855, who, with two daughters and three sons, remain to mingle their tears and sorrow with ours at the loss of an affectionate husband and father, a good citizen, a most noble man and our brother.

WILLIAM L. ORR.

To recall his Masonic career would be but to repeat a large portion of Masonic history for Illinois during the past forty years. Its pages are adorned by thoughts and records of his master mind, ever intended for the betterment of mankind and the upbuilding of our noble institution.

He was made a Master Mason in Lee Center Lodge, No. 146, A. F. & A. M., October 17, 1856. Later he affiliated with Friendship Lodge, No. 7, at Dixon, and continued an active member until his death, serving as its Worshipful Master for nine years; was exalted to the Capitular degrees of the Holy Royal Arch in Nachusa Chapter, No. 56, at Dixon, on September 5, 1859, and served as its High Priest for three years. Received the Cryptic degrees of Royal and Select Master in Peru Council, No. 12, in December, 1864, serving as Master for one year. Was created a Knight Templar in Sycamore Commandery, No. 15, in June, 1866, and later affiliated with Dixon Commandery, No. 21, serving as its Eminent Commander for seven years. He was created a Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret, 32°, A. A. S. Rite, in 1869, and at the time of his death was a member of Oriental Consistory, Chicago. Created a Sov. Grand Inspector-General, 33°, at Portland, Me., August 10, 1875, and crowned an active member of the Supreme Council at Chicago, September 21, 1893. In the Grand Bodies of our State he attained their most exalted stations, serving as Grand Master of the Grand Council, Royal and Select Masters, for the term of 1866 and 1867; as Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter for 1871 and 1872; M. W. Grand Master, A. F. & A. M., 1872 and 1873, and Right Em. Grand Commander of Knights Templar, 1873.

It was our melancholy privilege to attend the funeral of our beloved brother, where the four surviving active members of the Supreme Council acted as honorary pall bearers, accompanied by a large delegation of honorary members from Chicago and other portions of the State, gathered to join with us in the last sad rites of our Order. Brief funeral services were held at St. Luke's Church on Monday afternoon, January 2, 1899, after which at the grave M. W. Bro. Edward Cook, assisted by the officers of the Grand Lodge, laid at rest the mortal remains of our beloved brother, where, beneath the shade of the stately oaks, beside the rippling waters of the beautiful Rock River, may they sing him an eternal requiem of rest until earth and sea shall give up their dead.

Bury him with fond blessings and few tears,
Or only of remembrance, not regret;
On his full life the eternal seal is set,
Unbroken till the Resurrection Day.
So let his children's children go their way,
Go and do likewise, leaving 'neath this sod
An honest man, "The noblest work of God."

Fraternally submitted,

AMOS PETTIBONE,
WALTER A. STEVENS,
GILBERT W. BARNARD.

ASA W. BLAKESLEY.

Grand High Priest, 1872.

From the East of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois.

PITTSFIELD, April 10, 1899.

COMPANIONS: With profound sorrow I am called upon to announce the death of our beloved brother, M. E. Companion Asa W. Blakesley, Past Grand High Priest, which occurred in his home at Quincy, March 30th last, in the eighty-first year of his age, having been born in Perryville, Madison county, N. Y., April 21, 1818.

He was made a Mason in Hancock Lodge, No. 20, at Carthage, Ill., where he received the first and second degrees during the winter of 1844-5, and subsequently received the third degree in Herman Lodge, No. 39, at Quincy, in 1848, and united with Bodley Lodge, No. 1, at the same place in March, 1848, where for fifty-one years he was an honored member. He served as Master for several years and in Grand Lodge as Junior and Senior Deacons, and in 1861 was elected Grand Senior Warden. He was a charter member of Quincy Chapter, No. 5, R. A. M.; Quincy Council, No. 15, R. & S. M., and Beauseant Commandery, No. 11, K. T. In 1872 he was elected Grand High Priest of our Grand Chapter after long service in the other offices in line. In 1873 he was promoted to Grand Senior Warden in the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar, having served in the subordinate places for several years. In the A. A. S. Rite he had received the thirty-second degree in Quincy Consistory.

He leaves a wife and two children to mourn his loss. To them we tender our profound sympathies.

His long connection with the public school system of Adams county and the active part taken by him in the political and business affairs of the city of Quincy made him a prominent factor in all the earlier efforts to build up the varied interests of his beloved city. His funeral was held April 2, Easter Sunday, in charge of Bodley Lodge, No. 1, A. F. & A. M., escorted by Beauseant Commandery, K. T.

Having come to Illinois in 1841 and united with the Lodge, Chapter and Commandery before the organization of any of our present Grand Bodies, except the Grand Lodge, his death has severed a chain which connected us with the early history, scenes and incidents of our institution, with and in which he had been an active and important participant. His absence from our annual meetings will be sadly felt by those of us who for thirty years and more have met with him in fraternal and social intercourse.

"Sigh low and long, for the snowflakes are falling
On the grave where the form of a loved one lies!
Sing high in reply to a far voice calling
Above the dark shades of death's low skies."

Let this announcement be read at the first stated convocation after its reception.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Grand Chapter this 10th day of April, A. D. 1899, A. I. 2429.

[SEAL]

W. B. GRIMES,
Grand High Priest.

Attest:
GIL. W. BARNARD,
Grand Secretary.

GEORGE E. LOUNSBURY.

Grand High Priest, 1873.

THIS brilliant and beloved Companion was born at Long Ridge, Connecticut, in 1837. He was made a Mason in Cache Lodge, No. 290, at Mound City, Illinois, in the year 1865. He was elected Master of the above Lodge in December, 1866; R. W. Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge in 1868; Grand S. W. in 1870; Deputy Grand Master in 1872, and served as Grand Master in 1874 and 1875, all of which positions he filled with distinguished ability.

In our Grand Chapter he filled the various official chairs from Grand Captain of the Host in 1869 to Grand High Priest in 1873.

He died in the city of Denver, Colorado, on the 4th day of August, 1878, whither he had gone in the vain and delusive hope that the salubrious climate of the Centennial State would restore his failing health and recuperate his wasted form and energies. Vain hope! The destroyer came in the guise of consumption, the most insidious and deceptive of all diseases, and though for many months he fought bravely for life, he was finally vanquished, and beneath the shadows of the Rocky Mountains, whose snow-capped summits pierce the skies, catching the first beams of the rising sun, and around whose tops lingers the last rosy flush of day, a thousand miles from home and the Masonic home he loved so well, George E. Lounsbury laid down his pilgrim's staff and calmly and peacefully went to rest.

"The mists of death hang low upon life's sea;
The unseen shore
Beyond the darkness rises silently
Forevermore;
The golden city flashes from the strand,
But mortal eye sees not the distant land.

"But there are voices in that unseen land
Which we have heard,
Of loved ones standing with us, hand in hand,
With smile and word,
That kindled here our hearts with Friendship's glow,
And breathed on us their music, soft and low.

"We knew them here, and with them wept and smiled;
Our life was one;
We met and parted, still of each beguiled;
Their work was done;
And they are resting in the morning land,
And we are toiling yet with heart and hand.

"Speed on, my bark, life's stormy sea across!
The mists will rise,
And every pain and tear and earthly loss,
In strange surprise,
Shall vanish when the unseen shore shall greet
Thine eye, and thou shalt touch the golden streets."

WILLIAM J. A. DELANCEY.

Grand High Priest, 1874.

E. COMPANION DELANCEY has been so long before the Masonic Fraternity of Illinois that his face is as familiar as a member of one's own family. The degrees were conferred on him in Alpha Lodge, No. 155, and Galesburg Chapter, No. 46, in 1859, at Galesburg, Ill. He passed the circle in Centralia Council, R. & S. M., in 1866, and in 1867 he was created a K. T. in Cyrene Commandery, No. 23, K. T., at Centralia, and his present affiliations are all at that place. As Master, High Priest, T. I. Master and Eminent Commander, he was distinguished as a master of all the requirements for a presiding officer and delineator of the rituals. For many years he was considered one of the best workers in the office of Principal Sojourner known to the Royal Craft in Illinois. His service as Grand Lecturer and D. D. G. M. in Grand Lodge under Past Grand Masters Gorin, Reynolds and Cregier brought him before the craft in such favorable character as to cause him to be chosen for one of the office bearers through the line to Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge and also as Grand High Priest in 1874.

He was born at Chesterfield, N. H., in 1826, and is a member of the Episcopal Church.

Having served for many years in the revenue and postal service of the United States, of late years he has been practicing his profession as a dentist at his home in Centralia. For several years past he has held the offices of Grand Sentinel in our Grand Chapter and Grand Council, where we trust that his pleasant smile, familiar face and fraternal salutation will meet and greet us for many years to come.

"I live for those who love me,
For those who know me true;
For the heaven that smiles above me,
And awaits my spirit, too;
For the cause that lacks assistance,
For the wrongs that need resistance,
For the future in the distance,
And the good that I can do."

HASWELL C. CLARKE.

Grand High Priest, 1875.

ORN in Boston, Mass., September 28, 1842. Graduated from Roxbury Latin School to Harvard College in the class of 1863, but left college for the army in the fall of 1861, and served until October, 1865. Joined the staff of Major-General Butler as Second Lieutenant and A. D. C.; was promoted for "meritorious service, gallantry and courage" to Captain, Major and Lieutenant-Colonel. Colonel Clarke was married to Miss Harriet A. Cobb, May 5, 1869, at Kankakee, Illinois, where he has resided since 1866. He was engaged in manufacturing and commercial business for several years, and during 1871 to 1897 was Cashier and Vice-President of the First National Bank of that city. For sixteen years he was Secretary and Treasurer of the Illinois Eastern Hospital for the Insane, and has held many local offices of trust, being now the Mayor of Kankakee. An honorable, upright citizen, a just and efficient official, a man of unblemished personal character, loved, respected and honored by all who know him.

His Masonic career began in Owisco Lodge, No. 571, at Kankakee, December 11, 1867, of which Lodge he was elected Master in December, 1868. After the surrender of the charter of Owisco Lodge, he affiliated with Kankakee Lodge, No. 389, and was Master of it in 1874 and 1875. He was exalted to the Royal Arch in Kankakee Chapter, No. 78, February 28, 1868; greeted as a R. & S. M. in Springfield Council, October 7, 1869; Knighted in Ivanhoe Commandery, No. 33, October 23, 1869; received the thirty-second degree in Oriental Consistory, Chicago, October 7, 1875, and was crowned an Inspector-General thirty-third degree, September 16, 1879. He has been active in all the affairs of the Fraternity in Kankakee, having served as High Priest and Eminent Commander many times.

This same activity has distinguished him in all our Grand bodies in various offices. He was elected Grand High Priest in 1875 and Grand Commander in 1884. He was for several years D. D. Grand Master of the Sixteenth District, also Grand Marshal, Junior Grand Deacon, and is now Senior Grand Deacon of the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

With a splendid record in the past, he has a bright future before him.

JOHN A. LADD.

ARTHUR R. H. ATKINS.

Grand High Priest, 1876.

PAST GRAND HIGH PRIEST, died at his home in Chicago on the 12th day of August, A. D. 1884, in the fifty-sixth year of his age. During the past year our Companion had been a great sufferer from dropsy, and the silent messenger was not an unexpected guest. Most Excellent Companion Atkins, as Master of Cleveland Lodge, No. 211, A. F. & A. M.; High Priest of Washington Chapter, No. 43, R. A. M.; Thrice Illustrious of Siloam Council, No. 53, R. & S. M.; Commander of Chicago Commandery, No. 19, K. T., and numerous other positions in the various branches of Freemasonry, performed faithful and valuable service.

The ripe experience gained in such service made his administration as Grand High Priest of this Jurisdiction one of great value and benefit to the Royal Craft. For many years, as member of the Committee on Jurisprudence in this Grand Body, his "counsel and advice were timely and good." Alas! in the prime of manhood's strength and usefulness, he is summoned from our labors here to do his Master's in the Grand Convocation above, where there are no more separations. He leaves a widow and fatherless children, to whom we extend our sympathies, and commend them to the Father of us all for His guidance and protection. The deceased was born July 18, 1829, at Jefferson, Ashtabula county, Ohio, was the youngest of twelve children, and from infancy the only surviving brother of nine sisters. At the early age of fifteen years he quit school and went to sea and visited many foreign lands. He was master of a schooner before he was of age, and commander of many other vessels, including the schooner "North West." He quit the lakes in 1866, and engaged in commercial pursuits in Chicago, and was a member of the Chicago Board of Trade at the time of his death. (Obituary report in Grand Chapter.)

"Upon the frontiers of the shadowy land,
We, pilgrims of eternal sorrow, stand;
What realm lies forward with its happier store
Of forests, green and deep,
Of valleys hushed in sleep,
And lakes most peaceful? 'Tis the land of Evermore.

"Those whom we loved and lost so long ago
Dwell in those cities, far from mortal woe;
Haunt those fresh woodlands, whence sweet carolings soar,
Eternal peace have they;
God wipes their tears away;
They drink that river of life which flows for Evermore."

JAMES C. McMURTRY.

Grand High Priest, 1877.

Have been unable to obtain any historical matter or portrait of this companion.

JOHN D. HAMILTON.

Grand High Priest, 1878.

AUGUST 13, 1891, the veils were parted and the immortal spirit of Most Excellent Companion John Dallas Hamilton was admitted into the presence of the Father of us all, and on the 14th his body was borne to the grave in Carthage, Ill., by his Masonic brethren, and there tenderly deposited in hope of the resurrection, leaving behind him a wife and three children, whose sorrow we most sincerely desire to alleviate by this expression of our heartfelt sympathy. We would join them in their tears, and walk with them through the gloom of their bereavement, ever praying that He who tempers the wind to the shorn lamb may shelter them from the pelting of the storm.

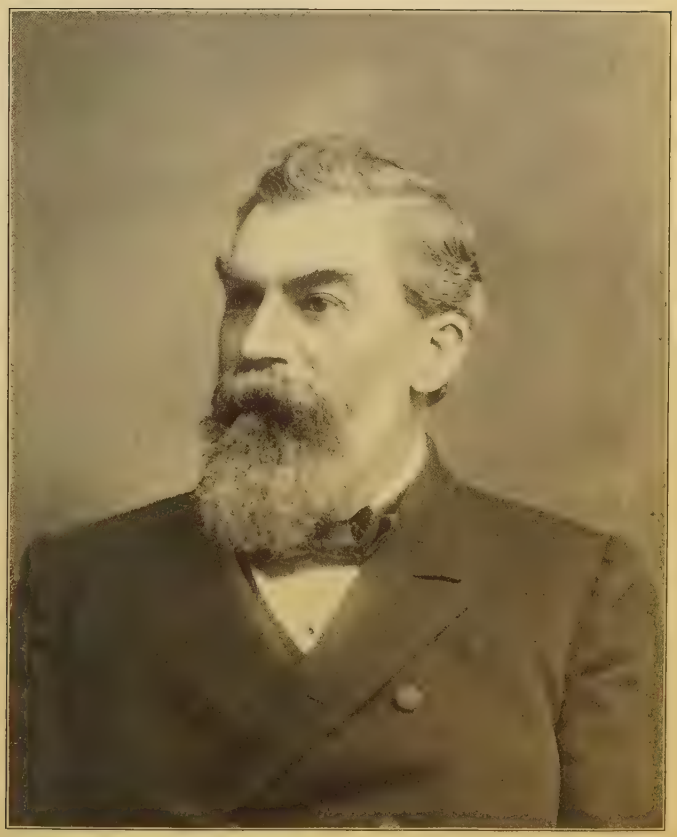
Companion Hamilton was a bright and enthusiastic Mason, and was honored by the craft by being promoted to the following offices: Master of his Lodge, High Priest of his Chapter, and Thrice Illustrious Master of his Council; he also served the Grand Lodge as Grand Senior Deacon, and was elected and served a term as Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter. In all of these positions he exhibited such fidelity and skill as entitled him to be called a Master Workman.

Companion Hamilton was born in Johnstown, N. Y., April 30, 1833. Early in the late Civil War he enlisted in the Sixteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry and served for a time as Sergeant Major, and afterward as First Lieutenant and Adjutant. At the close of the war he was appointed Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue for the Quincy District. He served one term as first assistant clerk of the General Assembly of Illinois, and five years as clerk of the State Prison at Joliet, from which he was appointed steward of the prison at Chester in 1878, which position he held until death gave him his discharge.

As, 'mid the ever-rolling Sea,
The eternal isles established,
'Gainst which the surges of the main
Fret, dash, and break themselves in vain,

So, through the ocean tide of years,
The memory of the just appears;
So, through the tempest and the gloom,
The good man's virtues light the tomb.

—Obituary report in Grand Chapter.



JOHN O'NEILL.

SAMUEL WOODSON WADDLE.

Grand High Priest, 1879.

EW Masons in Illinois have been more closely identified with the Fraternity and its work, or have enjoyed greater distinction in the way of official honors, than has M. E. Comp. Waddle, one of the veteran brothers of the State. His initiatory degrees were received in Wade-Barney Lodge, No. 512; he was exalted to the august degree of Royal Arch Mason in Bloomington Chapter, No. 26; was made a Royal and Select Master in Bloomington Council, No. 43; constituted a Sir Knight in DeMolay Commandery, No. 24, and has attained the thirty-second degree in Oriental Consistory. Brother Waddle has held most of the offices in the local bodies, having served as Worshipful Master, High Priest and Eminent Commander. He is the present Treasurer of the Lodge, Council and Commandery. In the Grand Chapter he was appointed by Past Grand High Priest DeLancey as Grand Principal Sojourner, and subsequently advanced by successive steps until, in 1879, he was elected Grand High Priest. He has never held office in the Grand Lodge or Grand Commandery, his connection with those bodies being in the capacity of representative or committeeman. He has been a faithful, sincere Mason and richly merits the good will and high esteem with which his brothers regard him.

Comp. Waddle was born in Jessamine county, Kentucky, August 22, 1834, and is the son of Alexander and Sarah J. A. (Woodson) Waddle. His youth was such as usually fell to the lot of a farmer's boy of fifty years ago. His education was derived principally at a log schoolhouse, supplemented by a term at a private school for boys. In 1860 he came to Bloomington and engaged in the mercantile business with varied success, and later in a manufacturing enterprise. In 1867 he was elected Alderman for one term, and in 1878 he was appointed City Clerk, which office he satisfactorily filled until 1885, when he resigned to accept a position in the Third National Bank of Bloomington, of which he was made cashier in December, 1891, and is serving in that capacity at the present time.

On September 23, 1856, Mr. Waddle was married, in Greene county, Ohio, to Miss Elizabeth Stevenson, and two daughters have been born to them, one of whom died in infancy. The other is now living with her parents and is the widow of the late Benjamin D. Lucas, who was at one time a leading attorney at Bloomington. The domestic relations of Mr. and Mrs. Waddle have been such as to afford them the greatest earthly happiness. Their friends are legion and are always assured of a warm welcome at the hospitable home of our subject. Although he is not connected with any church as a member, he comes of old Scotch-Irish stock and attends the Second Presbyterian Church of Bloomington. Mr. Waddle holds a membership in the Masonic Veterans of Illinois and is highly thought of in his home city, both as a man and Mason.

SILAS O. VAUGHAN.

Grand High Priest, 1880.

SILAS O. VAUGHAN, who has been prominently identified with Masonic interests in this State for nearly half a century, received his initiatory degrees in Euclid Lodge, No. 65, at Naperville, Illinois, in January, 1850; was exalted to the Holy Royal Arch degree in Euclid Chapter, No. 13, in 1852; received the degrees of Royal and Select Masters at Springfield, Illinois, in 1858, and was constituted a Sir Knight in Sycamore Commandery, No. 15, in 1866. He attained the ineffable degrees of the Scottish Rite in the Lodge of Perfection at DeKalb, Illinois, where he was proclaimed a Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret. Upon moving to the city where he now resides, Mr. Vaughan obtained a dimit from the parent bodies and became affiliated with DeKalb Lodge, No. 144; DeKalb Chapter, No. 52; DeKalb Council, No. 80, and Oriental Consistory. During his long association with the fraternity he has filled various offices of importance, acquitting himself with honor and distinction and winning the high favor of his fraters. In 1858 he was elected to the office of Worshipful Master in Euclid Lodge, No. 65, and held a similar position in DeKalb Lodge for a period of six years. In the Chapter he was High Priest for fourteen years, and in 1880 served as Grand High Priest in the Grand Chapter, and in 1879 officiated as Eminent Commander of Sycamore Commandery. In December, 1862, he was Worshipful Master of Hallock Military Lodge; in 1863-4 he served as High Priest of Asboth Military Chapter.

Born in Hanover, New Hampshire, on June 6, 1821, he received a limited education in the public schools of his native city. At the age of eleven years he was bound out to learn the blacksmith's trade, serving in that capacity for seven years, at the end of that time going to Attica, New York, April, 1839, and there worked at his trade until July, 1845, when he moved to Naperville, Illinois, opened a shop and conducted the same for thirteen years. In 1858 he came to DeKalb and here followed his vocation for twenty years, at the end of which time he engaged in the insurance business, which he has successfully continued ever since.

Mr. Vaughan was married at Naperville, Illinois, September 11, 1850, to Miss Caroline Sabine, a native of Genesee county, New York, and of this union five children were born.

He served as City Clerk for DeKalb for twenty years, which aptly testifies to the high esteem in which he is held by his fellow-citizens. He is a self-made man in the strictest sense of the term, attaining to his present prosperous position in life solely through his own efforts; and as an enterprising, public-spirited citizen he stands in an enviable light among the residents of his community.

GEORGE W. CURTISS.

JOHN P. NORVELL.

Grand High Priest, 1881.

COMPANION NORVELL was born in Trimble county, Kentucky, November 9, 1839, and died in Chicago, December 14, 1893. Coming to Illinois in his youth, he made his home in Coles county, where he entered the service of his country in 1861 and served four years in the Fifty-fourth Regiment of Illinois Volunteers, serving as quartermaster during the last year. After the close of the war he made his home in Danville and served his neighbors as Alderman in the City Council, and was appointed Postmaster by President Cleveland in 1885.

Companion Norvell's Masonic history is a brilliant one. He was made a Mason and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in Olive Branch Lodge, No. 38; was elected Master in 1871, and continued in that position until the close of 1876. He was exalted to the Royal Arch in Vermilion Chapter, No. 82, September 11, 1871, and served his Chapter as High Priest from the beginning of 1873 to the end of 1878. The orders of Knighthood were conferred on him in Athelstan Commandery, No. 45, which body he served as Eminent Commander in 1880 and 1881.

At the annual convocation of this Grand Chapter in 1873, Companion Norvell was elected Grand Master of the First Veil, serving through all of the gradations of office until he reached the exalted position of Grand High Priest, where he served the Craft with conspicuous ability, receiving the hearty commendations of his Companions. His face was a familiar one at all of our meetings, and to meet him was a genuine pleasure. Saturated with human fellowship, he loved his fellow man, and was loved in return. Open, generous and true, he fastened his friends with hooks of steel, making his loss a personal one to those who were fortunate enough to know him.

His body was laid to rest at Danville by the loving hands of his Masonic brethren, and his memory is engraved on their hearts to be cherished until they follow him into the future life.

—Report on obituary in Grand Chapter.

"Transiently the passing faces
Stamp their faces on the mind;
Other features fill their places,
But we backward turn to listen
For the tones we would recall.
Murmur we, while teardrops glisten:
'One by one our loved ones fall.'
No one hears the door that opens
When they pass beyond our call;
Soft as loosened leaves of roses,
One by one our loved ones fall."

SAMUEL SHANNON.

Grand High Priest, 1882.

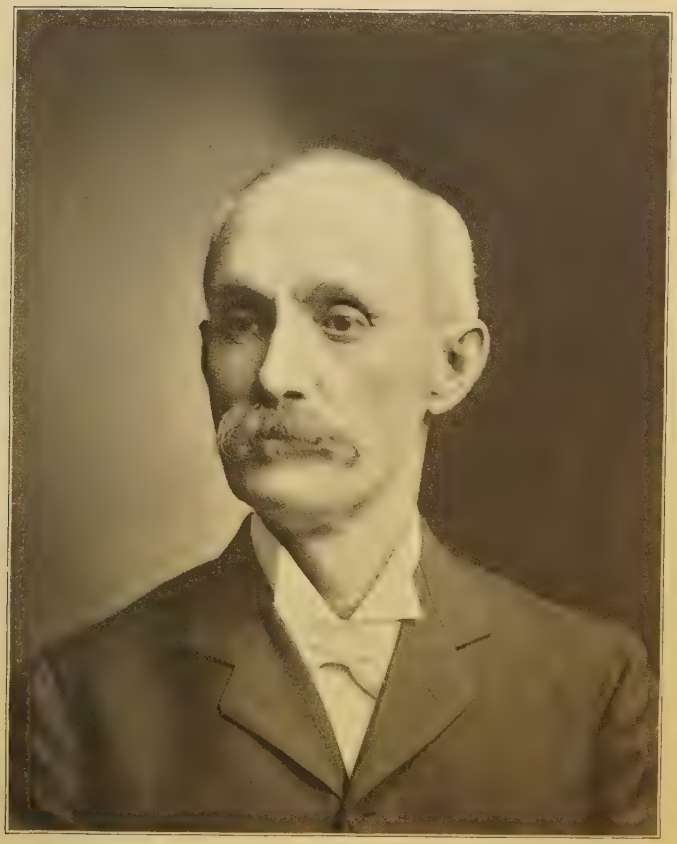
E. COMPANION SHANNON was born at Mt. Carmel, Illinois, where he now resides, on the 16th day of October, 1848. He is engaged in the grain business, which has been his principal occupation most of the time during his business life. A plain, unassuming, straightforward, upright man and citizen, who has made many friends in Masonic, business and social circles and is highly esteemed and respected in all.

His Masonic career began in Mt. Carmel Lodge, No. 239, August 13, 1872, which Lodge he has served as Worshipful Master and in other official positions. He received the Capitular degrees in Harmony Chapter, No. 35, R. A. M., at Sumner, Illinois, subsequently affiliating with Mt. Carmel Chapter, No. 159, in which he served as High Priest, and where his present membership is held. The degrees of Royal and Select Masters were conferred on him in Sumner Council, at Sumner, Illinois. About 1873 he received the Orders of Knighthood in Gorin Commandery, Knights Templar, No. 14, at Olney, Illinois, in which body he holds membership at present.

Residing at some distance from the location of Council and Commandery, he has held no official positions in them. He commenced his official relations in this Grand Chapter in 1875 as Grand Master of the Third Veil and served with zeal and fidelity in the various chairs until 1882, when he was elected Grand High Priest.

"This life we live, we make it,
You and I.
Would you make your life to live
By and by?
Plant the seeds with virtue there,
Tend and water them with care,
For the fruitage they will bear
By and by.

"When we are dead and gone—
You and I—
E'en our names forgotten be,
By and by,
Then some good that we have done,
Some kind act—some mercy shown—
Will live on, and on, and on,
By and by.



PHILANDER W. BARCLAY.

"In that place beyond the stars,
You and I
Will yet gather 'round God's throne,
By and by.
If the Master's voice we'll hear:
'In My name ye spread good cheer,'
Oh, what bliss will be our share,
By and by!"

VACATING THE OLD COTTAGE.

(Last poem by the late Brother William Rounseville.)

"The soul's dark cottage, battered and decayed,
Lets in new lights through chinks which time has made."

I shall move from my cottage ere long;
Years agone it began to decay;
Its timbers are not very strong,
Its gables the winter winds sway.

Many footsteps the thresholds have worn,
The windows are clouded with dust,
The curtains are faded and torn,
The hinges are covered with rust.

The rain filters through the old roof;
The snow seeks the cracks in the wall;
No spot 'gainst the breezes is proof,
In parlor, or kitchen, or hall.

I shall leave the old cottage ere long.
It has been a good house in its day.
About it sweet memories throng,
As I leave the dwelling for aye.

My Father a temple has reared;
He invites me in its mansions to dwell.
His goodness the old cottage cheered,
And I know where He is all is well.

I shall leave the cottage once dear,
To dwell in the mansions above,
To taste of the Heavenly cheer,
And live in the sphere of His love.

—Voice of Masonry.

WILLIAM L. ORR.

Grand High Priest, 1883.

COMPANION ORR was born at Washington, Pa., March 7, 1832. Deprived of his parents at the age of seven years, he resided on a farm, where he received a common school education, usual for a farmer's boy at that period. At an early age he began the trade of a machinist and engineer. He was employed as such for many years on the Southern rivers and between New Orleans, Havana, Vera Cruz and ports in South America.

In 1854 he settled at Beardstown, Ill. July 1, 1855, he was married to Miss Emma C. Wright, in Carrollton, and in 1856 he removed to Alton, engaged at his trade, where he remained until the outbreak of the war in 1861, when he enlisted for the three-months service, and then for three years. He was employed on secret service and staff duties until March, 1863, when he was commissioned as engineer in the U. S. Navy and served until December, 1865, on several ironclads and monitors on the Mississippi, Tennessee and Red Rivers and in the Gulf of Mexico.

His Masonic career commenced in November, 1862, in Alton Lodge, No. 284, and he was exalted in Alton Chapter, No. 8, in 1864, receiving the degrees of R. & S. M. in Alton Council, No. 3, the same year. In April, 1868, he was knighted a Templar in Belvidere Commandery, No. 2. Having removed to Carrollton, he affiliated there in Lodge, Chapter and Council, and assisted in the organization of Hugh de Payens Commandery, No. 29, at that place, of which he was Eminent Commander for five years. While residing there he was High Priest of Carrollton Chapter, No. 77, and in 1875 was elected Grand Master of the Second Veil in Grand Chapter, serving through the line of offices until 1883, when he was promoted to the Grand East. His present Masonic affiliations are in Piasa Lodge, No. 27; Chapter No. 8, Council No. 3, and Commandery No. 2, all at Alton.

In January, 1883, he removed with his family to Chicago, where he now resides, and is engaged in mercantile pursuits. For several years he has been the efficient Grand Steward in our Grand Chapter and Council, and is highly esteemed by all who know him or have official business relations with those bodies or the Grand Commandery of Illinois, of which he is the Grand Captain of the Guard. Holding Honorary memberships in several Chicago bodies and active in the affairs of the Veterans of the Naval service and Grand Army makes him a welcome visitor wherever he is present.

SYLVESTER O. SPRING.

JOHN A. LADD.

Grand High Priest, 1884.

HIS well-known and esteemed Companion has served the Grand bodies so many years in various official capacities and on Committees that he has become a prominent figure not only physically but Masonically. His parents' home was in the State of New York, but his birth occurred while his mother was on a visit in Upper Canada, May 3, 1836.

He received the M. M. degree in Robert Burns Lodge, No. 163, at Newport, Kentucky, June 19, 1861, and was exalted to the Royal Arch in Olive Branch Chapter, at the same place, February 5, 1863. The degrees of R. & S. M. were conferred in Dixon Council, No. 7, in 1866, and April 2, 1867, he was knighted a Templar in Dixon Commandery, No. 21, at Dixon, Illinois. In 1868 he received the degrees of the A. A. S. Rite in the Consistory then located at DeKalb, and now at Freeport, Illinois, of which body he is now a member. His other affiliations are at Sterling, Illinois, where he has resided since 1865 with his wife and family of four children.

As High Priest, T. I. Master, and Eminent Commander he did good service to the order. He has filled several positions in our Grand Lodge and Grand Council, as well as serving through the line of official chairs in Grand Chapter, of which he was elected Grand High Priest in October, 1884. As master of transportation and Acting Q. M. in the Sixteenth Army Corps during the war of 1861 to 1865 he rendered valuable service to his country.

An enthusiastic Freemason, an active business man, a good citizen, genial and pleasant companion, he has a host of warm friends among the craftsmen in Illinois.

"I saw a beam of light;
It shimmered on its way through realm of gloom,
More swift than shuttle in a weaver's loom,
And shone upon my sight.

"I saw a falling tear;
It glistened in the glory of the sun,
Like threads of crystalline reflection spun,
But soon to disappear.

"I saw a speck of white
Far out upon the bosom of the deep,
Like some fair goddess sinking in her sleep
Into the liquid night.

"I saw a falling star;
It shot its golden course along the sky,
But perished in the twinkling of an eye
Within the depths afar."

JOHN O'NEILL.

Grand High Priest, 1885.

OR many years this Companion was a prominent figure in all matters Masonic in Chicago and in our Grand Bodies. Having faithfully performed his duties, he is in later years giving his attention to affairs pertaining to the improvement and benefit of the City of Chicago, which is his particular pride, and which he has served so long and faithfully as a private citizen and public official.

Honest Jack O'Neill, as his friends delight to call him, is well known to all who have to do with public improvements of Chicago, and brings to the discharge of those duties a ripe judgment and great efficiency gained by long experience in promoting the best interests and welfare of our city and county.

He was made a Mason in Blair Lodge, No. 393, A. F. & A. M., July 11, 1867, and served in various offices, being W. M. in 1870-1871. He received the Capitular degrees in Washington Chapter, No. 43, R. A. M., and served it as High Priest during 1874-5, and his record in that position was one of the most remarkable known to our jurisdiction. February 13, 1872, he was Knighted in Apollo Commandery, No. 1, K. T., and has served in various official positions and been promoted to Eminent Commander.

In Cryptic Masonry he received the degrees in Siloam Council in 1873 and was T. I. Master of it in 1874, where he was equally distinguished as in the Chapter. June 25, 1870, he was proclaimed a thirty-second degree member of the A. A. S. Rite in Oriental Consistory, and soon took an active part in the ritual of those degrees, presiding over the Lodge of Perfection, Council P. of J., and was Commander-in-Chief three years. He was crowned an Honorary member thirty-third degree in the Northern Supreme Council on August 16, 1876.

His zeal and efficiency early attracted attention in the Grand bodies of our State, where he filled many positions in Grand Lodge, and after having served a time with zeal and fidelity was elected Grand High Priest of our Grand Chapter in 1885, and Grand Master of Grand Council, R. & S. M., in 1879, serving four years during the period that those degrees were merged in the Chapter ritual.

For a long time Companion O'Neill was engaged in manufacturing business in this city, in which he accumulated a handsome competency that enabled him to retire from business other than to care for his property and his official duties.

JOSEPH E. DYAS.

GEORGE W. CURTISS.

Grand High Priest, 1886.

WAS made a Master Mason on the 12th of August, 1870, in Western Star Lodge, No. 240, of Champaign, Ill., and exalted to the Royal Arch degree on the 15th of April, 1871. He obtained a dimit from these bodies in 1874 to become a member of Urbana Lodge, No. 157, and Urbana Chapter, No. 80, at Urbana, Ill. He passed the circle of Cryptic Masonry and was greeted a Select Master in Urbana Council, No. 19, and was created a Knight Templar in Urbana Commandery, No. 16, June 15, 1874. He still maintains his membership in all these bodies. In November, 1886, he obtained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite in Peoria Consistory and received the degree of Sovereign Grand Inspector General in the Supreme Council, N. M. J., September 17, 1889. He was for several years High Priest of Urbana Chapter, No. 80, and Thrice Illustrious Master of Urbana Council. He was elected and served as Eminent Commander of Urbana Commandery and has held many of the subordinate offices in all these bodies. He was elected and served as M. E. S. P. G. M. of Peoria Council, Princes of Jerusalem, and is at present M. W. and P. M. of Peoria Chapter of Rose Croix and First Lieutenant Commander in Peoria Consistory, S. P. R. S. He was elected Grand Master of the First Veil in the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois, and, passing through all of the line offices, became Grand High Priest in 1886, was Grand Master of the Grand Council, R. & S. M. of Illinois, in 1883, and is Past Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Illinois.

Companion Curtiss was born in Chicago on the 27th of January, 1849. His father, James Curtiss, was twice Mayor of that city at an early day, and in 1854 he removed with his family to Champaign, Ill., where George W. grew to manhood. He was only thirteen years of age when he started out in life for himself, and since that time has been dependent entirely upon his own efforts. The success that he has achieved is due entirely to his own labors. In January, 1869, he entered the bank of D. Gardner & Company, at Champaign, and continued in that institution for five years, during which time he completely mastered the business. In 1888 he became a member of the firm of C. E. & C. M. Anthony, at Peoria, dealers in mortgages and loans, now the Anthony Loan and Trust Company. He is Secretary, Treasurer and Assistant General Manager of the company, and his superior ability and keen discrimination has added to the success which attends the firm.

Mr. Curtiss was married in Urbana, Ill., November 29, 1871, to Pauline C. Somers, and has one child, a daughter.

PHILANDER W. BARCLAY.

Grand High Priest, 1887.

THIS M. E. Companion was born at Russellville, Ky., December 30, 1832, and has been until recent years engaged in mercantile pursuits during his life. He resided in Chicago from 1854 until 1860, subsequently in Kentucky, where he was made a Mason at Bowling Green in 1864, and in 1865 a Royal Arch Mason. The Templar Orders were conferred on him in Cairo Commandery, No. 13, during the month of December, 1868, and in that year also he received the degree of Royal and Select Master. His home is in Cairo, where he settled in 1867, engaging in the drug trade on a large scale. From that time until the present he has been an important factor in all Masonic affairs, not only in that city, but of those of the State at large.

His record in all branches of the Fraternity has been one of great zeal and activity, not only in the subordinate bodies, but in the Grand Bodies, having served as Master, High Priest, T. Ill. Master and Eminent Commander in Cairo and District Deputy Grand Master of Grand Lodge, Grand High Priest of Grand Chapter, M. Ill. Grand Master of Grand Council and Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery, all in Illinois. He is a member of Oriental Consistory, S. P. R. S., thirty-second degree, since April 19, 1896, an officer in Gourgas Chapter, Rose Croix, and received the thirty-third degree in the A. A. S. Rite, September 18, 1900.

The loss of his estimable wife a short time since deprived him of his domestic partner, with whom he had shared the pleasures and sorrows of life for many years. A truly Christian member of the Methodist Church, to those who know the sterling worth, estimable character and genuine goodness of the man, words of honor or of praise are unnecessary. He is one of whom it may be truly said: "He is ever active in doing the best work that is to be done for the good of the Fraternity, as he is in deeds of charity and beneficence for the welfare and progress of humanity."

The following from the pen of a great admirer of M. E. Companion Barclay we glean from the Voice of Masonry:

Pause and peruse the world's most varied thought,
Her dreams, her legends and her histories;
Inspire her muse to sing of wonders wrought;
Let science probe the earth's deep mysteries,

And read the story of a new world's birth—
  New star, athwart the deep and sombre gloom,
Dimpled with sunlit hues—this verdant earth.
  E'en tell the tale of every wondrous plan,
  Regarded yet, as best, an honest man.

When over desert tracts in Persian lands
  A pilgrim wand'rer plods with weary pace,
Lest he should perish midst the lurid sands,
  Knelless, he throws himself upon his face.
Extended thus, he waits the simoon's blast.
Rejoice! He rises up—the danger past.

Behold the honest man who stands erect
  And waits immoral simoons whirl and pass,
Regardless, in his worth, of howl and wreck,
  Calmly he stands and weathers out the blast.
Let duty call, e'en death no horror hath;
  And, standing firm, heeds not the simoon's breath,
  Yet, loving life, he dies at peace with death.

SYLVESTER O. SPRING.

Grand High Priest, 1888.

E. COMP. SPRING was born in Pittsfield, Illinois, January 30, 1850. On November 28, 1878, he was united in marriage with Miss Anna F. Arenz, of Beardstown, Illinois, and they have had two children, one of whom, Marie L., is a recent graduate of the High School of Peoria.

Comp. Spring, who has been one of the most prominent factors in the growth and advancement of Masonry in Illinois, became a member of Cass Lodge, No. 23, of Beardstown, Illinois, December 10, 1872, and was afterwards elected Worshipful Master. Later he was dimitted and joined Temple Lodge, No. 46, of Peoria. He was exalted to the august degree of the Holy Royal Arch in Clarke Chapter, No. 29, of Beardstown, February 8, 1873; was dimitted and joined Peoria Chapter, No. 7, and served as its High Priest. He has attained to eminent distinction in the work of the Chapter, became Representative to the Grand Chapter, and was elected Grand Master of the First Veil in the Grand Chapter of Illinois in 1880. From that time he was gradually promoted each year until 1888, when he was elected to the office of Grand High Priest. He took the Council degrees in a Royal Arch Chapter in February, 1878, but is now affiliated with Peoria Council, No. 11, in which he has served as Thrice Illustrious Master. In 1898 he was Grand Master of the Grand Council of this State. He was constituted, created and dubbed a Knight Templar in Hospitaler Commandery, No. 31, of Jacksonville, Illinois, September 23, 1873, but is now one of the followers of the beauseant in Peoria Commandery, No. 3, and was honored by the Knights of that organization, who chose him as their Eminent Commander in 1885 and 1886. In 1892 he was elected Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Illinois.

He received the grades and orders in Scottish Rite Masonry in Peoria Consistory, October 11, 1888, and was proclaimed a Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret. At present he is Commander-in-Chief of Peoria Consistory. He was created a Sovereign Grand Inspector-General, 33d degree, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, September 19, 1893, and was crowned an Active Member therein on September 19, 1899. In 1880 he presided as Grand Sovereign of the Grand Imperial Council of Illinois, Red Cross Knights of Constantine, and was created a Knight of the Grand Cross, October 25, 1895.

EDWARD C. PACE.

JOSEPH E. DYAS.

Grand High Priest, 1889.

S A lawyer at Paris, Illinois, and has been largely interested in the growth of Freemasonry for more than a quarter of a century. In its high purpose and lofty aims there is something in the Fraternity which appeals to the practical business man, who shapes his life in harmony with the old-time principles of honor and justice.

Mr. Dyas was admitted to Paris Lodge, No. 268, in 1867, and from his earliest connection therewith has been a loyal supporter of ancient craft Masonry. For four years he served as Worshipful Master and under his able administration the Lodge was blessed with prosperity. In 1870 he was exalted to the august degree of Royal Arch Mason and for two years was High Priest. In 1878 he passed the circle of cryptic Masonry and was greeted a Royal and Select Master of Young Council, in which he has been honored with the office of Thrice Illustrious Master. In 1871 he took the vows of Knighthood in Palestine Commandery, No. 27, and for three years was Eminent Commander. In 1891 he was honored with the office of Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Illinois; is the present Grand King of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and for twenty years was Chairman of the Committee on Appeals of the Grand Lodge, during which time he decided over three hundred cases.

Mr. Dyas was born near Dublin, Ireland on the 24th of September, 1844. His father, Dr. W. Godfrey Dyas, was a very prominent physician and a gentleman of high scholarly attainments. Joseph E. Dyas was a youth of fourteen years when he came with his parents to Chicago. He acquired his literary education in an academy in Canada and pursued his law studies in the Chicago University, where he was graduated and given his diploma in June, 1865. Locating in Paris, he has since successfully engaged in the practice of law.

Mr. Dyas was married on the 20th of June, 1872, to Miss Laura Sandford, of Paris, a daughter of Hiram Sandford now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Dyas are the parents of four children: Richard S., who is attending the Bloomington Law School; John F., Eleanor and Joseph E.

EDWARD C. PACE.

Grand High Priest, 1890.

RICHARD PACE, a member of the Jamestown, Va., colony, who emigrated to this country about the year 1618, was the earliest member of the family of our M. E. Companion in this land and was one of those who assisted in the settlement and defense of that part of our country. The family remained there until after the War of the Revolution. Subsequently they removed to what is now Woodford county, Ky. Many of them participated in the early Indian wars, the Revolution and the War of 1812.

The subject of this sketch was born at Mt. Vernon, Illinois, September 25, 1832, where he resided for a number of years, subsequently removing to Ashley and there engaging in general business, merchandising, farming, stock growing and banking, and where he still resides. With his wife and family he has a handsome home and has always commanded the respect and regard of his neighbors and business associates.

A member of the Methodist church, his daily life proves him a consistent Christian man and an upright, useful citizen, one whom the people of his district have often chosen for official honors, in the discharge of the duties of which he has gained the commendation of all who know him. In all this he was doing naught but what would be expected from the honorable record of the family from which he is descended.

It is this kind of men who make good Masons and our Companion began early in life in our ranks by joining Mt. Vernon Lodge, No. 31, when he was twenty-one years old, September 26, 1859. On January 9, 1863, he became a R. A. M. in Du Quoin Chapter, No. 81, and in July, 1864, he received the degrees of R. and S. M. at Cairo. March 31, 1874, he was admitted into the chivalric orders at Cairo. His present affiliations are at Ashley in Lodge and Chapter and Cyrene Commandery at Centralia. He is Past Eminent Commander of that Commandery. In 1881 he joined the A. A. S. Rite in Chicago and is a member of Oriental Consistory. September 15, 1885, he was crowned an Honorary member, 33d, of the Northern Supreme Council. He served Clay Lodge, No. 153, as Master, and in Grand Lodge on Committees for many years. Ashley Chapter, No. 14, R. A. M., promoted him to High Priest and our Grand Chapter found in him good material for an office bearer and made him its presiding officer in 1890. The Knights Templar, of Illinois, considered his Capitular work good and put him at service in the ranks of the order and in October, 1896, he was elected Grand Commander.

Companion Pace says that he has not made an effort to sustain the warlike record of his ancestors, but is content with being enrolled in the Illinois National Guard with a Colonel's commission.

He has been a member of the State Board of Equalization, Board of Agriculture, and was one of the World's Fair Commissioners at Chicago in 1893.

A happy, pleasant gentleman with a host of warm friends whose best wishes are for his continued health and prosperity.

JACOB KROHN.

Grand High Priest, 1891.

ONE of the best known and highly esteemed citizens in the city of Freeport, Illinois, is the subject of this sketch. He was born in Prussia on the 22d day of February, 1832, and came to this country at an early age, residing for a time at Saugerties, Ulster county, New York, where he was made a member of Ulster Lodge, No. 193, March 7, 1855.

Soon thereafter he removed to and engaged in merchandising in Freeport, Illinois, where on April 26, 1880, he was exalted to the Holy Royal Arch in Freeport Chapter, No. 23, of which body he has been High Priest and at all times one of its most useful members. Having affiliated with Excelsior Lodge, No. 97, at Freeport, he served it as Worshipful Master and for many years has been District Deputy Grand Master of that District, as well as giving able attention to committee services in the Grand Lodge of Illinois.

April 29, 1868, he was made a member of Freeport Council, No. 39, R. and S. M., and has presided in the East of that body with fidelity and zeal. At the City of Lyons, Iowa, on March 12, 1877, he was made a 32d degree member of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, subsequently having affiliated with the bodies of that Rite at Freeport. He has filled many positions therein and served as Sov. Pr. Grand Master of the Council of Princes of Jerusalem.

In our Grand Chapter he entered the line of officers as Grand Master of the First Veil, October, 1883, continuing in line until elected Grand High Priest at the Annual Convocation in 1891. His administration of the Capitular affairs of the State was an admirable success.

For many years he has been a faithful servant of the people at his home, having filled the political offices among others of Alderman, Mayor of the city, and President of the Board of Education with great ability and to the entire satisfaction of the citizens.

Of the Jewish religion he is a strict follower in profession and practice, and has the respect and regard of those of all denominations with whom he has social or business relations.

As President of the Second National Bank, of Freeport, his financial ability is regarded as of the best and he has the confidence of the business community in the highest degree.

His family relations, his financial standing and his genial, happy disposition, enable him to enjoy to the fullest extent, all that is good and pleasant for man's welfare in this life, and the great army of warm friends who know, love and respect him, hope and trust that he may long continue among us in the full enjoyment of these pleasant surroundings.

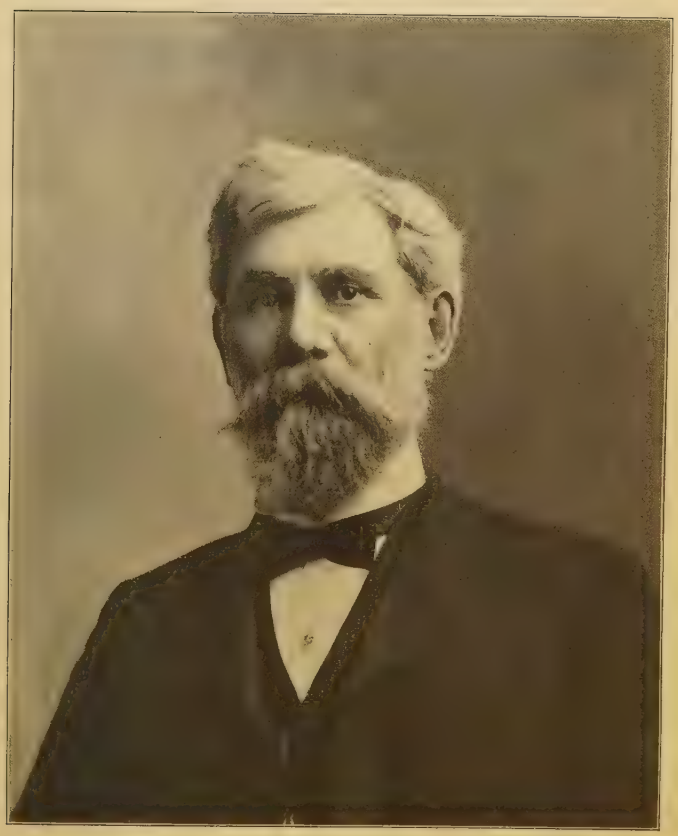
RICHARD T. HIGGINS.

Grand High Priest, 1892.

THIS Companion was born June 9, 1842, in Cass county, Illinois. He was educated in the common schools, taking an Academical course and then studied medicine, and took degree of M. D. at Nashville University, Tenn., in 1864; and Jefferson Medical College in 1867. During the years 1863 and 1864, he served in the army as Assistant Surgeon. For many years he practiced medicine, but later has been engaged in large commercial and manufacturing interests and banking; now serving his twenty-fifth consecutive year as President of the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Vandalia, Ill. In 1871 he was married to Miss Jennie R. Fehren, of Vandalia, Ill., and has two children—Clifford F. and Julia E. Politically he is a Republican, and has held many local offices of honor and trust; has been a delegate to National Republican Conventions several times, and was a Representative in the Thirty-eighth General Assembly of Illinois. He is a member of the Presbyterian church. His Masonic career commenced in 1864, on December 9, of which year he was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, in Temperance Lodge, No. 16, Vandalia, Ill. March 8, 1869, he was exalted in Vandalia Chapter, No. 136. He was Knighted in Cyrene Commandery, No. 23, Centralia, Ill., September 13, 1874. His present affiliations are with these to-day. He has served as W. M. and H. P. of his Lodge and Chapter, and as Junior and Senior Grand Deacon in the Grand Lodge; and from Grand Master of First Veil, through the line of officers to Grand High Priest in Grand Chapter of Illinois, and sustained an excellent record in all these positions as a faithful and efficient officer.

Dr. Higgins' long experience in the financial, political and the fraternal affairs of this State, has given him the respect and confidence of a large number of our citizens and made for him a strong feeling of regard among the members of the Ancient Craft in Illinois.

With this record made while yet in the prime of life, it may be confidently expected that the future holds many honors that will come to one that has so worthily worn those of the past.



RICHARD T. HIGGINS.

JAMES W. HUTCHINSON.

Grand High Priest, 1893.

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, State of Illinois.

JACKSONVILLE, ILL., September 17, 1897.

COMPANIONS: It is my sad duty to announce the death of M. E. Companion James W. Hutchinson, Past Grand High Priest of Illinois. Most Excellent Companion Hutchinson was born at Griggsville, Ill., September 14, 1841; died September 2, 1897, at his home at Greenfield, Illinois. He was buried by his Masonic brethren, among whom he had labored so faithfully.

After a preliminary education, received in the public schools of his native State, he entered the Polytechnic College at Philadelphia, from which he graduated with honor. He entered the United States Navy in 1861, becoming a participant in the exciting experiences of the Civil War, and resigned his commission as Assistant Engineer in 1865. Susequently he engaged as a mining engineer in Colorado, remaining there until his marriage in 1868, soon after which he removed to Greenfield and became an honored member of the Sheffield Banking Company, which connection only terminated with his death. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, was for years Superintendent of the Sunday School, and the worldly honors and position that came to him never lured him from his fidelity and loyalty to Christ and his church.

He was a member of the Loyal Legion at the time of his death, and Commander of Misner Post, No. 350, Grand Army of the Republic.

His Masonic record begins with the initiation as Entered Apprentice in Cheyenne Lodge, No. 16, Wyoming, September 28, 1870. He was exalted to the august degree February 14, 1872, in Wyoming Chapter, No. 1, Cheyenne. In 1877 he received the Order of the Red Cross in Chicago. In 1881, November 4, he received the Order of the Temple in Hugh De-Payen's Commandery, No. 29, K. T., at Carrollton, and in 1889 received the Cryptic degrees in Carlinville Council, No. 69. He served as presiding officer of the various subordinate bodies; also, October 29, 1885, was elected G. M. First Veil in the Grand Chapter of Illinois. Filling the several subordinate offices, he became Grand High Priest October 26, 1893.

He was a faithful worker in Masonry, a model citizen, a loving husband and father, a true and loyal friend. The influence of such a man, within and without the fraternity, is immeasurable in its beneficence.

Let this announcement be read at the first stated convocation after its reception.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Grand Chapter this 17th day of September, A. D. 1897, A. I. 2427.

F. C. WINSLOW,
Grand High Priest.

Attest:

GIL. W. BARNARD,
Grand Secretary.

WILLIAM L. MILLIGAN.

Grand High Priest, 1894,

WAS born of Scotch-Irish parentage in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, September 16, 1849. At the age of four years he came with his parents to Ottawa, Illinois, where he attended the public schools until fifteen years of age, where, owing to his delicate health, his father was obliged to take him from school and moved to his farm on the Vermillion river. In December, 1877, Comp. Milligan was united in marriage to Miss Louise Eichelberger, and three sons and five daughters have been born to them, all of whom are bright and intelligent and the joy and pride of their parents. He moved to Ottawa in 1882 and his father, W. R. Milligan, having been elected sheriff of La Salle county, he accepted the position of first deputy, which he filled during the four years of his father's administration. He is at present in the employ of the Milwaukee Harvester Company. His home is in Ottawa, Illinois.

Comp. Milligan's Masonic life began in 1879 while yet on the farm, and his devotion and study of Masonry has caused him to be one of the best known and highly honored Masons in Illinois. He has always been an industrious and enthusiastic Mason and the result of his unabated labors is the present prosperous condition of the local bodies in Ottawa. Comp. Milligan was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason October 13, 1879, in Occidental Lodge, No. 40; was exalted to the august degree of Royal Arch Mason December 17th of the same year in Shabbona Chapter, No. 37, R. A. M., and passed the circle of perfection in Cryptic Masonry March 2, 1881; created a Knight Templar and Knight of Malta April 28, 1881, in Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, K. T., and attained the degree of Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret in Oriental Consistory, Valley of Chicago, October 7, 1881, and in recognition of his faithful and meritorious services in the order, was crowned Sovereign Grand Inspector General 33d and last degree, at Providence, Rhode Island, September 20, 1887.

He was Worshipful Master of Occidental Lodge, No. 40, from 1884 to 1886 inclusive. High Priest of Shabbona Chapter, No. 37, R. A. M., from 1881 to 1887 inclusive. Thrice Illustrious Master of Oriental Council, No. 63, R. and S. M., from 1883 to 1887 inclusive. Eminent Commander of Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, K. T., during the years 1886-87-91-92; was Val. Grand Almoner of Chicago Council, Princes of Jerusalem, in 1886. District Deputy Grand Master of the Ninth Masonic District of Illinois 1886, 1887, 1888, 1896 and 1897; was member of the Board of Trustees of the

JAMES W. HUTCHINSON.

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Illinois Masonic Orphans' Home from 1886 to 1891 inclusive, and holds life membership certificate No. 1, and was Second Vice-President of the Illinois Masonic Home for the Aged Freemasons for several years. He has represented the Grand Lodge of South Australia near the Grand Lodge of Illinois since 1887, with the honorary rank of Past Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of South Australia conferred on him October 21, 1886, by that Grand Body. He is also the Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec and the Grand Councils of Royal and Select Masters of Tennessee and Indian Territory. He takes considerable pride in holding a certificate of honorary membership in Fortitude Lodge, No. 47, A. F. and A. M., La Grange, Ky. Mr. Milligan was Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in 1895 and Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council, Royal and Select Masters of Illinois, in 1899.

GEORGE M. MOULTON.

Grand High Priest, 1895.

GEORGE MAYHEW MOULTON, the eldest son and for many years his father's associate in business, was born in Readsboro, Vermont, March 15, 1851, and was brought by his parents to Chicago in 1853, since which time he has been a resident of this city. He entered the public schools and was graduated in the high school at the age of seventeen, with the class of 1868. He then began business with his father, and as time passed, thoroughly mastered every detail connected with the erection of the large grain elevators which were the specialty of the company. He also learned the carpenter's trade. In January, 1870, he went with his father to Duluth and aided in the construction of the first grain elevator built in that section of the country. His duties were those of secretary to the vice-president and general manager of the company, and general clerk of the work. When the Duluth elevator was completed he engaged with the owners to operate it for a year, but before that period expired he was transferred to Stillwater to superintend the erection of an elevator at that point. From that time down to the present he has been interested in the erection of almost every large grain elevator in the country.

George M. Moulton is a man of varied resources and his efforts have been by no means limited to one line of industrial interests. He was one of the stockholders in the World's Columbian Exposition, and stands among the foremost business men of Chicago, whose avenues of commerce, extending in all directions, largely control the trade of the country. He is a member of the Union League Club of Chicago.

Mr. Moulton was married March 12, 1873, in Burlington, Iowa, to Anna Florence Garland. They have two children, Edith May, who was born in Winona, Minnesota, and Arthur Garland, who was born in Chicago.

In 1886 Mr. Moulton was commissioned a major in the Second Regiment, Illinois National Guards. He resigned his commission in January, 1890, retiring when Col. H. A. Wheeler—at whose solicitation he entered the service—retired from the command of this regiment.

In February, 1894, Colonel Moulton, then a staff officer attached to the First Brigade, I. N. G., was unanimously elected colonel of the Second Infantry, I. N. G., the largest regiment in the State.

April 26, 1898, Colonel Moulton reported at Springfield, Ill., with his regiment for service in the Spanish-American War, and they were mustered into United States service May 16, 1898, serving thereafter at Camp Cuba Libra, Jacksonville, Fla., Camp Onward, Savannah, Ga., and Camp

WILLIAM L. MILLIGAN.

Columbia, Havana, Cuba. While in Cuba, Colonel Moulton was specially detailed as Chief of Police of Havana, being the first to serve in that capacity under United States governmental control of Cuba.

Mr. Moulton is an enthusiastic Mason and has taken the following degrees in Masonry: He was raised a Master Mason in Covenant Lodge, No. 526, A. F. and A. M., February 26, 1875; exalted a Royal Arch Mason in Corinthian Chapter, No. 69, May 17, 1875; greeted Select Master in Siloam Council, No. 53, August 7, 1875; created a Knight Templar in St. Bernard Commandery, No. 35, September 1, 1875; created S. P. R. S., 32d degree, in Oriental Consistory, A. A. S. R., June 4, 1880. He was crowned as Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33d degree, A. A. S. R., for the Northern Jurisdiction, U. S. A., September 20, 1887, in the Supreme Council of which Rite he is Marshal of the Camp; was created Knight of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine, Knight of St. John of Palestine, and Guardian Knight of the Holy Sepulchre in the Grand Council of the State of Illinois, October 25, 1875. He also holds a membership in Queen Esther Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, and Medinah Temple, A. A. O., Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. Nor has he been an idle member of these various bodies. On the contrary he has been an almost constant, faithful and efficient office-bearer, serving with fidelity in many of the humbler official positions and with distinction in many of the most important in the gift of Masonry.

Among the positions he has filled are the following: In Lodge, Senior Deacon, 1877, Junior Warden, 1878, and 1890; Senior Warden in 1891, and Master in 1892; in Chapter, King, 1884 and 1885, and High Priest, 1886, receiving order of High Priesthood October, 1886; in Council, Thrice Illustrious Master, 1884; in Commandery, Captain General, 1877, Generalissimo, 1878, and Eminent Commander, 1883; in Chicago Council, Princes of Jerusalem, 16th degree, A. A. S. R., Sovereign Prince Grand Master, 1884 and 1885; in Consistory, S. P. R. S., 32d degree, A. A. S. R., Second Lieutenant Commander, 1885, 1886 and 1887, and First Lieutenant Commander until January, 1890, when he became the Illustrious Commander-in-Chief; In Grand Lodge, Junior Grand Warden, 1895 and 1896; Senior Grand Warden, 1897-1898, being elected Deputy Grand Master October, 1899; in Grand Chapter, R. A. M., Grand Master First Veil, 1887, through the line to Grand High Priest, 1895; in Grand Council, R. and S. M., Grand Master, 1889; in Grand Commandery, K. T., Grand Commander, 1890. At Washington, in 1889, he was appointed Grand Standard Bearer of the Grand Encampment, K. T., U. S. A., for the term ending August, 1892, elected Grand Senior Warden at Denver for term ending August, 1895, at Boston elected Grand Captain General for term ending August, 1898, and at Pittsburgh elected Grand Generalissimo for term ending August, 1901. In the Orders of Christian Knighthood, known as Red Cross of Constantine and Appendant Orders, Comp. Moulton was Sovereign of St. John's Conclave and has successively occupied the stations up to M. I. Grand Sovereign of the Grand Imperial Council, for the Western Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America.

He is a stockholder in the Masonic Fraternity Temple Association of

Chicago. In 1884 he became one of the incorporators of the Knights Templar and Masons' Life Indemnity Company, a fraternal co-operative company, of which he was vice-president until 1890, when he succeeded the late Dr. J. Adams Allen, as president In 1885 he became one of the incorporators of the Illinois Masonic Orphans' Home and was elected president of the Association, filling that office until 1890, when he retired voluntarily, remaining, however, in the board of trustees. During the presidency of Mr. Moulton the association acquired a property which is valued at fifty thousand dollars, and is practically free from debt. The Home is in practical operation and is a delightful protection to a considerable number of dependant Masonic orphans.

FREDERIC C. WINSLOW.

Grand High Priest, 1896,

WAS born October 6, 1850, at Cuyler, Cortland county, New York, of New England parentage. Came to Illinois in 1852. Family settled in Freeport, Stephenson county. Received preliminary education in the public schools of that city; later entered the Northwestern University and graduated in the class of 1870; took up the study of medicine and graduated from the medical department of the same university in the class of 1874, and in 1875 from the Cook County Hospital of Chicago, positions which are obtained by competitive examinations open to the world. At the conclusion of a term of service in the County Hospital, was appointed to the lowest medical position in the Illinois Central Hospital for the Insane at Jacksonville, Illinois, and has spent the most of his professional life in the study and treatment of nervous and mental diseases, both in America and Europe. Passing through the various subordinate grades, was appointed Superintendent of the above named Insane Hospital April 1, 1897.

He was married in 1881 to Frances Wilkinson Rockwell, of Jacksonville, who died in 1898. The family consists of two sons, aged eighteen and twelve years respectively.

His Masonic career began in 1881, when he was raised to the Sublime degree in Moses R. Thompson Lodge, at Freeport. Became W. M. of this Lodge the same year; in 1886 was exalted to the august degree in Jacksonville Chapter, No. 3. He was elected H. P. the following year; in 1888 was elected G. M. First Veil in Grand R. A. Chapter of Illinois, and was elected Grand High Priest in 1896. He was M. Ill. Grand Master of the Grand Council of Illinois in 1893, and is at present Deputy Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Illinois, and M. E. Grand Viceroy of the Grand Imperial Council Red Cross of Constantine for the Western Masonic Jurisdiction, U. S. A.

In the year 1896 he received the 32d degree in Oriental Consistory S. P. R. S. at Chicago.

Our M. E. Companion is a most genial and companionable man who makes warm friends wherever he is known.

A fine ritualist and presiding officer whose promotion in our Order has been rapid but well deserved, for every requisite duty has always been faithfully and zealously discharged.

EUGENE L. STOKER.

Grand High Priest, 1897.

THIS M. E. Companion was born in Louisville, Clay county, Illinois, August 14, 1850, and received Masonic light in Centralia Lodge, No. 201, September 19, 1879, and was raised to the Sublime degree of M. M. November 9, the same year. The following year he received the Capitular degrees in Centralia Chapter, No. 93, and has presided in the Oriental chair in both bodies. June 1, 1881, he was greeted a Royal and Select Master in Centralia Council, No. 28, and is now Ill. Deputy Master in Palestine, No. 66, at Chicago. In Cyrene Commandery, No. 23, K. T., at Centralia, March 12, 1884, he was created a Knight Templar and subsequently served it as Eminent Commander. He received the degrees from Secret Master, 4th, to Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret, 32d, in the co-ordinate bodies of the A. A. S. Rite, Valley of Chicago, during 1883 and 1884, and has served in various stations in them since that date. September 17, 1889, he was crowned an Inspector General, 33d degree, at New York City, in the Northern Supreme Council. In our Grand Lodge he has filled the positions of Junior Grand Deacon, Grand Examiner and is at present a member of the Committee on Appeals and Grievance therein.

In all these positions Companion Stoker has served with that distinguished ability which has made him so well and favorably known to the Craftsmen of our Jurisdiction, as it has also given him deserved prominence in all the social, political and professional affairs of the State.

In his profession of attorney-at-law he has gained an excellent reputation as a safe and honorable counselor.

In politics he is a steadfast, yes, a stalwart Republican who is always with his party in defending the principles of that party.

He has been City Clerk and City Attorney of Centralia, holding these offices for several years and that of State's Attorney of Marion county for four years.

He was an active member of and prominent in the political events of the Thirty-seventh General Assembly in 1891 and 1892.

He is a member of the Methodist church and leads a life consistent with that faith. He was married April 19, 1875, to Miss M. A. McKnight and has one child, Wm. M. Stoker, born February 22, 1876.

Removing his professional office to Chicago a few years since, he soon found a congenial and happy home at Evanston, where he now resides and has the confidence, regard and respect of all who come to know him as either Freemason, churchman, citizen or attorney.

After the above was prepared death came to our dear brother and companion.

GEORGE M. MOULTON.

GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS, STATE OF ILLINOIS.

AURORA, October 10, 1900.

To the High Priests, Kings, Scribes and Companions of all Chapters in this Grand Jurisdiction—GREETING:

It becomes my painful duty to announce to you the untimely death, on September 30, 1900, at Centralia, Illinois, of our well beloved Companion, Eugene LeCompte Stoker.

For many years our deceased Companion was a prominent figure in the Freemasonry of Illinois and by merit alone had reached the highest honors in our gift, having been elected to the office of Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois at the Annual Convocation of 1897, a position which he filled with signal ability for the usual period. In the other branches of Freemasonry he was equally active and in all had won, and worthily worn, the honors and distinctions that are accorded only to merit. He received Masonic light in Centralia Lodge, No. 201, A. F. & A. M., at Centralia, Illinois, in the year 1876, and by regular gradations passed through all of the degrees and orders of the York and Scottish Rites, until finally, in 1889, he was crowned with the 33d and last degree by the Supreme Council, A. A. S. R., for the Northern Jurisdiction of the United States of America. In every department his influence was felt and his worth appreciated, and the long list of official dignities with which he had been invested sufficiently attests the esteem in which he was held by brethren of every degree.

In civil life our deceased Companion had long been prominent. He was a lawyer by profession and by his professional brethren was deservedly held in high estimation. For many years he was an active member of the bar of southern Illinois, where he was well known as an able and upright practitioner. A few years ago he removed to Chicago and until the time of his last sickness had been engaged in active practice at that city. His reputation as a man, a lawyer and a Mason is unsullied, while to those who enjoyed the privilege of his intimate acquaintanceship he will be long remembered for his genial and amiable qualities.

In view of this sad occurrence and in testimony of our esteem and respect for our departed Companion, proper tokens of mourning should be displayed in every Chapter in this Grand Jurisdiction.

It is hereby ordered that this communication be read in open Chapter at the first stated convocation after its reception and the jewels and furniture be draped in mourning for a period of sixty days.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Grand Chapter at Aurora this 10th day of October, A. D. 1900, A. I. 2430.

NATHANIEL BOWDITCH,
Grand High Priest.

Attest:

GIL. W. BARNARD,
Grand Secretary.

WILLIAM B. GRIMES.

Grand High Priest, 1898.

THIS venerable and dearly beloved Companion was born near Carmi, White county, Illinois, November 25, 1828, and received light in our Fraternity October 5, 1854. On November 29, 1860, he was exalted to the august degree of the Holy Royal Arch, and early in 1871 was greeted as a Royal and Select Master.

He has resided for many years at Pittsfield, in this State, where he has been an active and zealous worker in the Masonic field, having filled the East in a most creditable manner in Lodge, Chapter and Council. He was commissioned as a Deputy Grand Lecturer of the Grand Lodge of Illinois in 1875 and served for four years, when he was transferred to the Board of Grand Examiners in October, 1879, and it is there that he has shown his greatest efficiency in promulgating the standard work of the Grand Lodge. Few ever equalled him in the delineation of the Lodge Ritual in both its exactness and dramatic effect. Having filled that position for twenty years, failing health and infirmities of age, compelled "Father Grimes" to lay down the cares of that trying and difficult position, much to the sorrow and regret of thousands of the craftsmen in Illinois.

He has held many offices of political character in Pike county, among others those of Justice of the Peace, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, Deputy and County Clerk and Judge of the Probate Court, in all of which he has sustained an honorable, useful and efficient record.

In this Grand Chapter he has ever been a most faithful representative of his own Chapter, or Committeeman, until elected to the office of Grand Master of the First Veil, since when he has always been found present and ready to do his duty with fervency and zeal in all the offices in line until the year 1898, he was elected Grand High Priest, in which position he displayed the same firmness of character and wisdom of judgment which had characterized previous private and Masonic life. It is unnecessary to say that he has a host of warm friends and admirers, who hope for many years of happiness and content for him among us.

FREDERIC C. WINSLOW.

MOST EXCELLENT COMPANION NATHANIEL BOWDITCH.

Grand High Priest, 1899.

NATHANIEL BOWDITCH was born October 6, 1845, at Salem, Massachusetts, and is a descendant of the old colonial family of that name. His early life was passed in the peaceful pursuits of agriculture and assisting his father, a noted contractor and builder, at Leicester, Worcester county, Massachusetts. He received his education in the common schools of the State and at the age of eighteen graduated with honors at the Leicester High School. Possessing the mechanical proclivities which have so distinguished the Bowditch family, he turned his attention to the acquisition of the trade of a machinist, a pursuit in which he soon become proficient, and which he afterwards followed for a time with much success. His first active efforts were made in the city of Boston, where he remained until 1866, when, feeling that the West afforded a broader field for the development of his inclinations and abilities, he removed to the State of Illinois, locating first at Aurora, thence removing to Batavia, where he remained for two years. From this place he again removed to Aurora, where he has since continually resided. In 1874 he became connected with the safe business, and for many years was the general traveling agent of the Mosler Safe Company of Hamilton, Ohio. As a business man, Companion Bowditch enjoys a most enviable reputation for uprightness and fair dealing, while his fame as an ingenious and skillful mechanic in all matters pertaining to safes, locks and combinations extend to every part of the State. His active connection with the safe business ceased three years ago, and since that time he has been actively engaged in developing and manufacturing a number of important inventions.

In Masonry Companion Bowditch has long occupied a high and influential position. He was made a Master Mason in Batavia Lodge, No. 404, September 4, 1868; was exalted to the Royal Arch in Fox River Chapter, No. 14, October 29, 1868; greeted a Select Master in Sycamore Council, No. 36, September 27, 1869; and created a Knight Templar in Aurora Commandery, No. 22, April 21, 1876. In the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite he received the grade of Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret, Thirty-second degree, in Princeton Consistory, April 22, 1874, but at the present time is an affiliate of Oriental Consistory, of Chicago. He was also one of the nine companions who organized Aurora Council, No. 45, in 1869, and was its first Deputy Illustrious Master, since which time he has served it for many years as Thrice Illustrious Master, and of which office he is the

present incumbent. He is a Past High Priest of Fox River Chapter, No. 14, R. A. M., and has served two years as Eminent Commander of Aurora Commandery, No. 22. In the Grand Council of Illinois, R. & S. M., he was elected to the office of Grand Thrice Illustrious, and when, in the following year, that office was abolished by adoption of the new Constitution, was elected Grand Captain of the Guard. In October, 1886, he was elected to the office of Most Illustrious Grand Master, a position he filled with such signal ability that on the reassembling of the Grand Council in the folowing year he was re-elected to the same office. Upon expiration of his second term he was appointed to the office of Grand Lecturer, an appointment which has been confirmed by successive Grand Masters for eleven years, when he retired from the duties of that office. It is generally conceded that during the trying period which marked the reorganization of the Grand Council the services rendered by Companion Bowditch did more to augment its prosperity and place it upon a solid foundation than that of any other person. The Cryptic Rite having thus engaged his attention, his earnest endeavors have never flagged, and it is not an exaggeration to say that he is regarded as the foremost exponent of the rite as practiced in Illinois to-day. In its allied branch of capitular Masonry he is also an active worker. He was elected Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Illinois in October, 1899, after having served in all of the line offices, retiring from the position at the close of the Semi-Centennial ceremonies, over which he had the honor to preside. He is Grand Representative of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Oregon, near the Grand Chapter of Illinois, and Grand Representative of the Grand Councils of Royal and Select Masters of the States of Colorado and Vermont, near the Grand Council of Illinois. Socially, Companion Bowditch is a courteous, affable gentleman; the center of a large circle of warm and admiring friends. He was married in 1870 to Miss Sarah Thompson, and one daughter is growing up to do the honors of his home. In personal appearance he is above the medium height and of a commanding presence. He is easy and fluent in conversation, and brings to whatever task he may have to perform the strength of an indomitable will and a never tiring zeal.

EUGENE L. STOKER.

GEORGE W. WARVELLE.

Grand High Priest, 1900.

GEORGE W. WARVELLE, one of the prominent jurists and attorneys of Chicago, and one of the best known Masons in the State of Illinois, is a native of Kenosha, Wisconsin, born May 3, 1852, of mixed English and Irish ancestry; received an academical education in the schools of his native city, and at the age of nineteen years entered the office of the late Hon. O. S. Head, of Kenosha, and commenced the study of law. The succeeding seven years he spent in preparatory study at his home and at Chicago, and in 1876 was admitted to practice by the courts of Wisconsin; and ever since that time he has devoted his time and energies to his profession, succeeding in building up a large and remunerative practice. In 1881, realizing that his abilities demanded a larger field of work, he removed to the city of Chicago, where he has since resided. While engaging in general practice, he has given special attention to the law of real estate, and has appeared as counsel in a number of celebrated real-estate cases.

Developing in life a high degree of literary taste and ability, he has naturally taken much pleasure in giving these facilities considerable scope. Among his other published works may be mentioned a treatise on "Abstracts of Title" (Chicago, 1883), which has had a large sale and has passed to a second edition; a treatise on the law of "Vendor and Purchaser" (Chicago, 1890); and later an elementary work for the use of students on "The Principles of Real Property." The last mentioned work has been received with special favor by legal educators, and is now used as a text-book in many of the leading law schools of the country. Comp. Warvelle has also been connected, as contributor and otherwise, with the staff of several of the leading law journals. In recognition of his abilities in the line of authorship, etc., he has received from several collegiate institutions the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws (LL. D.). In 1898 he received the appointment of Dean of the Chicago Law School, a position which he still holds.

In 1877 Comp. Warvelle united his destinies with those of Miss Lydia Bangs, of Kenosha, Wisconsin, and they now have five children.

In respect to the fraternal orders there are many interesting details to relate, but only the main outline is given here. Comp Warvelle was initiated into the mysteries of Masonry in Covenant Lodge, No. 526, in Chicago, in February, 1875, and since then, by successive gradation, has advanced through all the bodies of the York and Scottish Rites, rounding out his Masonic career in 1888, when he was crowned with the Thirty-third and

last degree by the Supreme Council A. A. S. R. for the Northern Jurisdiction. He has been honored with many official stations by the Craft, being elected the presiding officer in all of the bodies of the York and Scottish Rites, as well as in a number of the Grand Bodies of the State. He has acquired an extended reputation as a writer on Masonic history and jurisprudence, having made a number of valuable contributions to the Masonic press on these subjects, which are deservedly held in high esteem. He has one of the largest and finest private libraries in the city, in all departments of literature, and in addition has made a collection of Masonic works which is larger and more valuable than any other in this or any of the adjoining States, with but one exception. This latter library embraces upwards of five thousand titles, and is under the control and auspices of Oriental Consistory.

Comp. Warvelle has also been active in the charitable work of the Fraternity; was one of the founders, and for the past thirteen years a Trustee, of the Illinois Masonic Orphans' Home, and he is President of the Illinois Masonic Home for the Aged.

He has thoroughly eschewed "politics" and refused all offers of political preferment; but he is a fluent and easy speaker, thoroughly posted on whatever he undertakes to treat in public, and consequently his services as an orator and after-dinner speaker are constantly in demand.

HARMON G. REYNOLDS.

Grand Secretary, 1851-1868.

THIS Companion, so long a conspicuous figure in Illinois Masonry, died in the State of Kansas, December 31st, 1891, at the ripe age of 81 years. The life of this distinguished Mason was marked by great industry and sincerity of purpose. As is well known, he was actively and closely identified with the progress, jurisprudence and history of Freemasonry in Illinois for more than a quarter of a century. He was Secretary of this Grand Chapter during an unbroken period of seventeen years. The deceased Companion was a man of great executive ability and tireless energy. These qualities were recognized and appreciated by the Craft of our State, and were rewarded by the bestowal upon him, during many years of his active life, of the highest fraternal consideration. Indeed, in his absence from the field of his labors he was affectionately remembered by his brothers in Illinois. Although our venerable Companion has gone to his eternal rest, his name and fame are indelibly interwoven in the literature and growth of Freemasonry in Illinois. The activities of Companion Reynolds in the Masonic vineyard ceased a number of years since upon his removal to a distant State, where, at the age of more than four score years, he finally laid down his working tools and, let us hope, entered into the enjoyment of that bliss, to be found in heaven, "where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary find rest." (Obituary in Grand Chapter 1892.)

GRAND LODGE SESSION, 1851.

"Among the representatives present was Harmon G. Reynolds of Knoxville. Bro. Reynolds was appointed Secretary pro tem., and at the election was chosen as the permanent officer. For seventeen years then succeeding, or until 1868, Bro. Reynolds was annually elected Grand Secretary, and finally relinquished the office only to become Grand Master. No other one man has ever filled so large a space in the history of Illinois Freemasonry, nor has any one ever wielded so great a power. The estimates of his character vary greatly, according to the point of view, but it must be conceded that he brought to the office of Grand Secretary the first application of orderly and business-like methods, and that his administration of the affairs was characterized by signal ability."—Warvelle's Masonic History.

A sketch of him in 1858 by M. W. Bro. Rob Morris contains the following:

"Harmon G. Reynolds, Grand Secretary of Illinois, was born in Moreau, Saratoga county, New York, Dec. 21, 1810. He was reared and educated in Berlin, Washington county, Vermont, and admitted to the bar at Montpelier, in that State, November, 1836. In July of the next year he removed to Rock Island county, Illinois, where he remained for several years. In August, 1839, he was elected Probate Judge of Rock Island county. October 25, the subsequent year, he married Miss Louisa Thompson.

"In January, 1843, he was initiated an Entered Apprentice Mason in Warsaw Lodge No. 23, which commences a career marked with uncommon devotion to those high interests which are cherished in Freemasonry. In October, 1851, he was elected Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Illinois, and has continued ever since to enjoy an annual re-election to the same posts of honor and usefulness. October, 1853, he was elected Grand Recorder of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters, just then organized, and has filled the post ever since. In August, 1856, he was carried forward through the degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Rite as far as to the Thirty-second in Occidental Sovereign Consistory at Chicago.

"Bro. Reynolds has never been without those marks of popular favor which, in this great Republic, accrue so largely and naturally to a man of talent and integrity. In 1847 he was one of the Secretaries of the Constitutional Convention of Illinois; was postmaster at Rock Island for several years, from 1847, and at Knoxville since 1856. Of the House of Representatives of Illinois he was Assistant Clerk in 1849, and State's Attorney of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in 1850. As he had filled the responsible and onerous position of Probate Judge of Rock Island county in 1839, so he was elected to a similar post in Knox county in 1853."

CLING TO THOSE WHO CLING TO YOU.

As you daily journey onward o'er life's rough and rugged road,
Beset by sore temptations, burdened by Care's heavy load,
And a helping hand is given by friends faithful, good and true,
Show your true appreciation; cling to those who cling to you.

When of money we have plenty, and worldly goods galore,
Of friends we have no lack, then we can count them by the score;
"Fair weather friends" are numerous, but those who e'er prove true
Are few and far between; then cling to those who cling to you.

When misfortunes overtake us, and riches from us fly,
Our loyal friends stand by us while our "sham" friends pass us by.
Pay no heed to those who flatter, don't desert old friends for new,
Ever bear in mind this motto: "Cling to those who cling to you."

WILLIAM B. GRIMES.

Be willing, then, to lend a hand to help a friend in need,
Speak kindly, always prove yourself to be a friend indeed,
Don't let a spiteful, cruel, bitter word cause you to rue
Its utterance, don't be hasty; cling to those who cling to you.

Do not speak the cruel, bitter word that always wounds the heart,
You never can recall it, 'tis like a poisoned dart;
Do all you can to waken love, be honest, just and true,
Stand by your benefactors; cling to those who cling to you.

God made us all dependent on each other for support,
Protection and encouragement, and therefore we all ought
To do to others as we would that they to us should do;
Then obey the Golden Rule, and cling to those who cling to you.

—Samuel M. Henderson.

GILBERT W. BARNARD.

Grand Secretary, 1878-1900.

MASONIC RECORD.

SYMBOLIC.

M. M., Dec. 7, 1864, in Garden City Lodge, No. 141, A. F. & A. M.

W. M., 1866-67 and Secretary since 1880.

Secretary and Treasurer of the Illinois Masonic Veterans Association from its organization.

Past D. D. G. M. and Grand Examiner.

Have been present at every Annual Communication of Grand Lodge from 1866 to date.

Representative of Grand Lodge of Wisconsin since 1873.

CAPITULAR.

Exalted, Oct. 2, 1866, in Corinthian Chapter, No. 69, R. A. M.

High Priest, 1877.

Elected Grand Secretary of Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois, October, 1878.

Representative of Grand Chapter of Indiana since 1874.

CRYPTIC.

R. & S. M., March 25, 1871, in Siloam Council, No. 53.

Elected Grand Recorder, Grand Council, R. & S. M. of Illinois, October, 1877.

Representative of Grand Council of Kentucky since 1884.

CHRISTIAN KNIGHTHOOD.

K. T., May 13, 1870, in St. Bernard Commandery, No. 35.

Em. Com., Dec. 9, 1874.

Elected Grand Recorder, Grand Commandery of Illinois, October, 1877.

Grand Representative, Grand Commandery of North Carolina, since 1881.

Created Knight of the Red Cross of Constantine, 1872.

Past Sov., St. John's Conclave, No. 1.

Past M. I. Grand Sov., Grand Imperial Council of Illinois.

Past Ill. Grand First Lieutenant Supreme Grand Chapter U. S. A. and Grand Cross since 1880.

ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE.

S. P. R. S., April 25, 1868, in Chicago Consistory.

Past T. P. G. Master of Chicago and Van Rensselaer Lodges of Perfection.

Commander-in-Chief, Oriental Consistory, 1876-7-8, and Grand Secretary, 1878 to date.

Grand Secretary, Illinois Council of Deliberation, from 1881.

Received the Thirty-third degree Nov. 13, 1873, and was crowned an active member of the Supreme Council, N. M. J., Sep. 15, 1891.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP.

Cairo Lodge, No. 237, Cairo, Ill.
Dearborn Lodge, No. 310, A. F. & A. M., Chicago.
Thomas J. Turner Lodge, No. 409, A. F. & A. M., Chicago.
Keystone Lodge, No. 639, A. F. & A. M., Chicago.
Arcana Lodge, No. 717, A. F. & A. M., Chicago.
Harbor Lodge, No. 731, A. F. & A. M., Chicago.
Kenwood Lodge, No. 800, A. F. & A. M., Chicago.
Constantine Council, No. 2, R. & S. M., London, England.
Lincoln Park Chapter, No. 177, R. A. M., Chicago.
Apollo Commandery, No. 1, K. T., Chicago.
Temple Commandery, K. T., No. 20, Princeton, Ill.
Siloam Commandery, No. 54, K. T., Oak Park.
Columbia Commandery, No. 63, K. T., Chicago.
Aurora Grata Lodge of Perfection, 14°, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Brooklyn Masonic Veteran Association, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Supreme Council, A. A. S. Rite, Southern Mas. Jurisdiction.

CHARLES FISHER.

Born December 24, 1822.

THIS Companion, as he stood before us at the Semi-Centennial ceremonies erect, strong and stout, showed but slight signs of the years that had gone before in his life.

His is a name that has been familiar to us in the Masonic matters of this Jurisdiction for many years. He was initiated in Springfield Lodge, No. 4, in 1847, but is now a member of Central No. 71; also holds membership in Chapter No. 1, Council No. 2 and Elwood Commandery No. 6, all in Springfield, in which city he has made it his home for sixty years or more. He has served as presiding officer in all of these bodies more or less often, and has been in his time an active and zealous worker in the Grand Bodies of our State. In 1867 he was Deputy Grand Master of our Grand Lodge, and subsequently a member of the first Board of Grand Examiners to promulgate the Standard work. He was Grand Captain of the Host in our Grand Chapter in 1858, Grand Senior Warden in Grand Commandery in 1864. In the Grand Council R. & S. M. of Illinois he was elected M. Ill. Grand Master in 1861, serving two terms, and subsequently for twenty-five years he was its Grand Treasurer.

He is a consistent member of the Presbyterian church and has held many positions of political and social preferment at the hands of his fellow citizens. His has been a truly respectable, honorable and useful life which we all trust may long continue in peace and comfort with us.

Companions of the Grand Royal Chapter of the State of Illinois:

At the earnest solicitation of our M. E. Grand High Priest I have consented to appear on this occasion and to join with you in the celebration of the Semi-Centennial organization of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois. And it may be that the fact of my having been present, fifty years ago, when this Grand Chapter was organized, and the general belief that I am the sole survivor of those distinguished Companions who participated in such organization, together with the fact that I have been a member of this Grand Chapter for forty-nine years, will be thought sufficient justification for any attempt I may make to speak to you.

At the time referred to, I had been a resident of Springfield for ten years; was a member of Springfield Chapter, No. 1 (as ever since I have been and am now), which Chapter had existed and been acting under a charter granted by the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States. Six other Chapters, in like condition, existed in Illinois, with the officers and members of which I had in general a personal acquaintance. Nor am I able at this time to recall any of them as living. I personally

knew, I believe, every one of the representatives who came together in Springfield on the 9th and 10th days of April, 1850, charged with the duty of bringing into life this Grand Chapter.

There were seven Chapters in the State, and representatives of six of them took part in organization. Besides Springfield Chapter No. 1, the representatives came from LaFayette Chapter, No. 2, of Chicago; Jacksonville Chapter, No. 3; Horeb Chapter, No. 4, of Henderson, Knox county; Quincy Chapter, No. 5, and Peoria Chapter, No. 7. Shawneetown Chapter, No. 6, was not represented.

The authority under which these companions assumed to act consisted of a letter addressed to William B. Warren, High Priest of Jacksonville Chapter, and written by Willis Stewart of Louisville, Kentucky, then General Grand King of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States; but which letter was lost before the proceedings appeared in print. But the loss of this important document does not seem to have operated at all unfavorably to arrest or retard the growth and development of the new body.

It may not be thought uninteresting to recall the names of those early Companions who officially sat in that convocation, which, brief as its record is, held one session on April 9th and three on the 10th.

William B. Warren, of Jacksonville, was elected Grand High Priest; John H. Holton, of Quincy, Deputy Grand High Priest; James V. Z. Blaney, of Chicago, Grand King; Peter Sweat, of Peoria, Grand Scribe; Mason Brayman, of Springfield, Grand Secretary; Thomas H. Campbell, of Springfield, Grand Treasurer; and W. S. Hurst, of Jacksonville, Grand Marshal. And besides these Grand Officers were also John Uhler, of Springfield; E. R. Roe, N. English, P. Coffman and J. J. Cassell, of Jacksonville; S. G. Dean, of Horeb (Henderson); Lewis Watson and George Wyke of Quincy—fifteen in all.

Other Companions, not delegates, were in attendance (the Grand Lodge then being in session in Springfield), among whom I recall Companion Z. P. Cabiniss, Past High Priest of Springfield Chapter, No. 1, and who acted as Grand Installing Officer.

The Grand Chapter adjourned to meet the following October, at Alton, though at that time Alton had no Chapter.

While reflecting on those early times and events I have been profoundly impressed by the great changes wrought in the fifty intervening years, not only in respect of the humble position Masonry then occupied in the community and the prominence it has now attained, but in respect to the abundant harvest Death has garnered; of my Masonic associates and acquaintances then, how very few remain; and of my Companions at the birth of this grand body, all—all are gone. They were good men and true; they loved Masonry for the acts and virtues it inculcates, and cheerfully made the sacrifices and bore the burdens required for the upbuilding of an institution ennobled by the acts, lives and deeds of so many distinguished brothers and Companions.

Their memory I revere and hold sacred, as I admonish you to emulate their virtues and unselfishness.

1850.

1900.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter

of Illinois

invites you to be present at and

participate in the exercises

attending the

Semi-Centennial Anniversary

to be held at the

City of Chicago,

October twenty fifth and twenty sixth,

nineteen hundred.

Gil. W. Barnard,
Masonic Temple,
Chicago.

Nathaniel Bowditch,
Grand High Priest.

R. A. M.

Grand Officers
1899-1900

Comp. Nathaniel Bowditch, ... Aurora
M. E. Grand High Priest

Comp. George W. Warvelle, ... Chicago
R. E. Deputy Grand High Priest

Comp. Charles H. Patton, ... Mt. Vernon
R. E. Grand King

Comp. Alfred A. Whipple, ... Quincy
R. E. Grand Scribe

Comp. Wiley M. Egan, P. G. H. P., . . . Chicago
R. E. Grand Treasurer

Comp. Gilbert W. Barnard, ... Chicago
R. E. Grand Secretary

Comp. Rev. James E. Jewett, ... Lincoln
E. Grand Chaplain

Comp. Robert L. McKinlay, ... Paris
E. Grand Captain of the Host

Comp. Leroy A. Goddard, ... Chicago
E. Grand Principal Sojourner

Comp. George F. Henthorne, . . . Peoria
E. Grand Royal Arch Captain

Comp. Marcus M. Lord, ... Chenoa
E. Grand Master 3d Veil

Comp. Monroe C. Crawford, ... Jonesboro
E. Grand Master 2d Veil

Comp. Alfred M. Werner,* . . . . Decatur
E. Grand Master 1st Veil

Comp. William L. Orr, P. G. H. P., . . . Chicago
E. Grand Steward

Comp. Wm. J. A. DeLancey, P. G. H. P., . . Centralia
E. Grand Sentinel

*Deceased.

1850 1900

PROGRAM

OF THE

SEMI-CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

OF THE

GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER

OF ILLINOIS

HELD AT

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

ON

OCTOBER 25 AND 26

1900

EXERCISES

October 25th

10:00 A. M. Grand Chapter convenes in Commandery Hall, Masonic Temple, in Fifty-first Annnal Session. Music by Lexington Quartet.

10:15 A. M. Reception by Grand Chapter of distinguished guests.

10:30 A. M. Grand Chapter in executive session.

3:00 P. M. Grand Council of High Priests convenes in Commandery Hall.

6:00 P. M. Reception of visitors at Masonic Home Temple, No. 3120 Forest Avenue.

7:00 P. M. Banquet tendered by Grand Chapter at Masonic Home Temple.

October 26th

10:00 A. M. Grand Chapter resumes session in Commandery Hall, Masonic Temple.

11:00 A. M. Installation of Officers.

COMMITTEES

ON INVITATION

R. E. Comp. GEORGE W. WARVELLE, D. G. H. P.

M. E. Comp. WILEY M. EGAN — M. E. Comp. JOHN O'NEILL
" " " WILLIAM T. ORR — " " " GEORGE M. MOULTON

ON BANQUET

R. E. Comp. LEROY A. GODDARD, G. P. S.
E. Comp. WILLIAM K. STEELE, No. 2
E. Comp. WILLIAM CREAR, No. 43
E. Comp. ORLANDO W. KEATLEY, No. 69
E. Comp. HENRY WUNNICKE, No. 126
E. Comp. HENRY C. DALE, No. 127
Comp. M. C. HARPER, No. 144
E. Comp. WILL C. ROOD, No. 148
E. Comp. EDWARD T. DOYLE, No. 161
E. Comp. WILLIAM A. SHARP, No. 176
E. Comp. W. W. BOONE, No. 177
Comp. A. B. CARMAN, No. 180

ON RECEPTION

R. E. Comp. CHARLES H. PATTON, Grand King

M. E. Comp. LOYAL L. MUNN — M. E. Comp. PHILANDER W. BARCLAY
" " " JOHN M. PEARSON — " " " SYLVESTER O. SPRING
" " " WM. J. A. DELANCEY — " " " JOSEPH E. DYAS
" " " HASWELL C. CLARKE — " " " EDWARD C. PACE
" " " JAMES C. MCMURTRY — " " " JACOB KROHN
" " " SAMUEL W. WADDLE — " " " RICHARD T. HIGGINS
" " " SILAS O. VAUGHAN — " " " WILLIAM L. MILLIGAN
" " " SAMUEL SHANNON — " " " FREDERIC C. WINSLOW
" " " JOHN A. LADD — " " " WILLIAM B. GRIMES
" " " GEORGE W. CURTISS

MEDAL AND SOUVENIR

R. E. Comp. ALFRED A. WHIPPLE, Grand Scribe
E. Comp. EDWARD SNYDER, No. 185
E. Comp. J. E. RUSSELL, No. 191
E. Comp. WILLIAM C. JORDAN, No. 195
E. Comp. GEORGE W. GÜNTHER, No. 196
E. Comp. A. J. CUNNINGHAM, No. 201
E. Comp. ARCHIBALD BIRSE, No. 202
E. Comp. D. W. WEEDS, No. 203
E. Comp. GEORGE W. LORENZ, No. 204
E. Comp. E. O. WELDIN, No. 205
E. Comp. C. D. TAYLOR, No. 206
E. Comp. EDWARD P. NELL, No. 207
E. Comp. HENRY F. SAWTELL, No. 210
E. Comp. HERVEY E. KEELER, No. 213

Banquet

Given by
the

Grand Royal Arch Chapter

of Illinois

at its

Semi-Centennial Convocation

October Twenty-fifth, Nineteen Hundred

Masonic Home Temple
Chicago, Ill.

1850 1900

BANQUET

GIVEN BY
THE

GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER

OF ILLINOIS

AT ITS

SEMI-CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

OCTOBER TWENTY-FIFTH, NINETEEN HUNDRED

MASONIC HOME TEMPLE
CHICAGO, ILL.

Toasts

Address of Welcome .. ..
NATHANIEL BOWDITCH
Grand High Priest

The General Grand Chapter of the United States .. ..
JOSEPH E. DYAS
General Grand King

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois .. ..
GEORGE W. WARVELLE
Deputy Grand High Priest

The Past Grand High Priests of Illinois .. ..
JOHN M. PEARSON
Past Grand High Priest

Our Noble Contemporaries .. ..
A. P. SWANSTROM
Grand High Priest of Minnesota

The Mission of the Royal Arch .. .. ..
WILLIAM C. SWAIN
General Grand Scribe

The Royal Craft Universal .. ..
W. G. REED
Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of Canada

Exercises

AT THE

Semi-Centennial Banquet

OF THE

GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

EXERCISES AT THE SEMI-CENTENNIAL BANQUET.

At seven o'clock P. M. the members of Grand Chapter and invited guests assembled in the spacious apartments of the Masonic Home Temple, where an hour was passed in fraternal greetings and converse, enlivened by the dulcet strains of a mandolin orchestra and a number of songs rendered in their usual inimitable style by the famous Lexington Quartet. At eight o'clock a procession was formed and the Companions repaired to the banquet room, where a bounteous repast had been provided.

The following are the names of those in attendance, so far as can be ascertained:

AT THE SPEAKER'S TABLE.

Nathaniel Bowditch, G. H. P.	George W. Warvelle, D. G. H. P.
Charles H. Patton, G. K.	Alfred A. Whipple, G. S.
Rev. James E. Jewett, G. C.	Robert L. McKinlay, G. C. H.
Leroy A. Goddard, G. P. S.	George F. Henthorne, G. R. A. C.
Marcus M. Lord, G. M. V.	Monroe C. Crawford, G. M. V.
William L. Orr, P. G. H. P.	William J. A. De Lancey, P. G. H. P.
F. C. Winslow, P. G. H. P.	Sylvester O. Spring, P. G. H. P.
John M. Pearson, P. G. H. P.	Wm. B. Grimes, P. G. H. P.
Loyal L. Munn, P. G. H. P.	Jacob Krohn, P. G. H. P.
Wm. L. Milligan, P. G. H. P.	John O'Neill, P. G. H. P.
Silas O. Vaughan, P. G. H. P.	John A. Ladd, P. G. H. P.
George M. Moulton, P. G. H. P.	Philander W. Barclay, P. G. H. P.
Haswell C. Clarke, P. G. H. P.	George W. Curtiss, P. G. H. P.
Richard T. Higgins, P. G. H. P.	Edward C. Pace, P. G. H. P.
Samuel Shannon, P. G. H. P.	Joseph E. Dyas, P. G. H. P.
Charles F. Hitchcock, M. W. G. M.	A. P. Swanstrom, G. H. P., Minn.
W. G. Reid, Grand Z. of Canada.	Bestor G. Brown, P. G. H. P., Kans.
William C. Swain, P. G. H. P., Wis.	Thomas J. Pereles, G. S., Wis.
John C. Smith, P. G. M.	John B. Fithian, M. I. G. M.

AT TABLE NO. 1.

William K. Steele	Edgar G. Tennant
William H. Reid	Smyth Crooks
John H. Huyck	A. M. Hallowell
H. A. Hammond	L. B. De Forest
George M. Gross	Thomas Austin

E. S. Mulliner
Thomas I. Ballantine
Harry P. Chalk
Henry R. Phinney
C. W. Patterson
J. F. Royce
W. P. Lillibridge
I. N. Streeper
J. F. Robinson
Albert Eads
D. C. Schockley
Clayton O. Billow
William K. Forsyth
William M. Thexton
James B. McFatrich
Henry R. Hopkins

Leslie T. Tennant
Samuel B. Stewart
L. J. Smith
Alex Heflin
Levi A. Pool
Samuel S. Smith
A. M. Otman
Silas F. Connor
Henry F. McKnight
D. H. Lollis
Alvin Scott, Jr.
G. P. Blanchard
D. J. Sears
Wm. C. Johnson
J. M. Powell
Frank Hudson

AT TABLE NO. 2.

Nathan L. Krone
James A. Raymond
E. H. Cooley
H. G. Gabel
James Walker
C. C. Nichols
F. L. Taylor
C. H. Plimpton
Fred J. Allen
James Little
W. L. Cox
J. M. Saucerman
M. Stoskopf
John H. Warren
H. W. Toennings
W. M. Bayne
F. W. Blose
Arthur Heafer
W. B. Carlock
D. D. Darrah
P. H. Holmes
E. W. Willard
W. H. Nevens

David Rosenheim
John Woods
Charles J. Starr
Theo. P. Streeter
Harry J. Phillips
M. U. Trimble
H. M. Schmoldt
H. Hines
D. D. Dunkle
M. K. Magner
C. S. Magner
L. O. Jenkins
C. L. Ferris
James Loynd
Wm. R. Hamilton
C. T. Abernathy
J. S. Andrews
L. C. Walters
M. E. Blanchard
R. L. Smith
J. S. Freeman
W. F. Beck
J. K. Pollack

AT TABLE NO. 3.

De Witt L. Jones
J. F. Quanstrom
Wm. Crear
Wm. H. Arthur

A. M. Bennett
Henry Munsterman
G. A. Williams
B. T. Wright

B. E. Hand
F. F. Handrup
J. C. Burmeister
F. H. Austin
T. H. Humphrey
James Norris
H. W. Holmes
W. R. Hoyle
A. T. Boyle
A. C. Cliffe
Seeley Brown
Edwin A. Kratz
G. A. Beisman
Amos Pettibone
G. W. Rosebrough
J. N. Bullard
J. B. Pomeroy
A. U. Thomas
E. B. Mitchell
J. M. Kirk
Herman Grossman
F. E. Hoberg
J. L. Moore
T. A. Wilson
John P. Williams
John W. Larimer
A. C. Stadler
P. H. C. Remine
W. P. Lambdin
R. J. N. Johnson
D. W. Whittenberg
C. W. Hollandsworth
H. M. Kline
O. W. Keatley
Henry Turner
John Woodman
John W. Hill

AT TABLE NO. 4.

S. M. Henderson
Arthur Warrington
Thomas L. Miller
F. L. Gerwig
W. T. Martin
Wm. F. Gibson
H. T. Stephens
L. L. Thomas
G. H. Slingerland
C. H. Morrell
P. T. Parkhurst
F. L. Nutt
H. H. Montgomery
T. J. Raffety
O. R. Morey
W. R. Foster
H. T. Hubbard
J. L. Hissong
Edward Blackshaw
James P. Sutton
J. D. Gerlach
F. H. Knerr
G. H. Schwing
H. R. Nortrup
J. B. Jones
E. A. Crandall
J. H. Thomas
W. C. Wellington
J. M. Beechly
Henry L. Rhodes
D. B. Robertson
L. A. Jackson
H. G. Diener
L. S. Taylor
T. E. Lawrence
Andrew Paulson
Wm. Mosedale
A. J. Harrington
D. R. Harrison
Cyrus P. Treat
Wm. Chamberlain
Jacob Hazlett
John H. Rife
S. J. Dodds
Charles A. Monk
A. S. Wilderman
Eugene Randall

AT TABLE NO. 5.

G. S. Culver
Ed L. Johnson
W. H. Mitchell
Edmund Jackson
W. C. Snyder
G. M. Cummings
B. Mendenhall
W. O. Ensign
E. L. Marquis
B. F. Colehower
J. N. Pierce
Alex H. South
S. C. Wagoner
N. D. McEvers
Hobart Hamilton
M. M. Milnor
J. P. Fowler
P. H. Oyler
E. D. Richmond
Joseph McDaniel
M. Safford
Henry Wunnicke
L. J. Hammel
Charles H. Cubbon

E. F. Newell
A. B. Height
Fred McCutcheon
Wm. T. Payne
Nathan Wilder
C. T. Drake
H. T. Putnam
Alex C. King
Henry C. Dale
C. T. Spence
F. H. Williamson
G. S. Barstow
T. C. Borden
J. L. Perkins
Walter A. Stevens
Eli Smith
John B. Thomas
B. B. Wiley
A. T. Jenkins
George D. Black
C. C. Armstrong
W. R. Stewart
C. E. Hessey

AT TABLE NO. 6.

T. N. Lakin
J. P. Cowdin
W. H. Seibert
O. D. Sanborn
Noah H. Pike
A. H. Copeland
M. C. Harper
W. C. Gilbert
A. N. Gage
Fred E. Trotter
H. D. V. Simmons
T. M. Hubbard
J. T. Crocker
Isadore Altman
Joseph Scott
Will C. Rood
Eli Wight
G. B. Coffin
Z. T. Griffin
J. W. Newburn

F. M. Welshimer
W. A. Washburne
A. D. Barbee
W. S. Bothwell
James W. Crabb
Paul W. Abt
G. G. Lohr
A. B. Sheadle
J. G. Stansfield
L. L. Emerson
Edward T. Doyle
H. T. White
John Cheshire
H. S. Tiffany
D. R. Crego
H. R. Rothwell
John Hosbury
J. W. Simpson
H. H. Wilder
Alexander Spence

Belton Halley	R. S. Faragher
S. E. Bliss	Theo. Steyer
Joseph W. Dostal	Charles I. Kagey

AT TABLE NO. 7.

E. B. Pellett	B. B. Maydwell
A. L. Hamilton	A. G. Dicus
C. E. Norris	Thomas Cromlish
L. S. Manville	L. H. Howell
A. C. Schadle	M. M. Goodale
Samuel McFeeley	T. A. Broadbent
D. E. Huggans	A. E. Wetzel
James A. Keith	F. H. Atwood
Isaac Cutter	Charles J. Roe
George W. Cyrus	C. H. Mills
J. W. Creekmurr	Robert Turney
James Barr	A. C. Ferlike
F. Murdock	R. P. Hanna
Fred Hutchinson	George W. Gunther
Amos L. Norris	Edward M. Grant
Wm. A. Sharp	D. D. Brown
A. L. Carroll	A. B. Garman
M. M. Spencer	J. S. Wayman
E. M. Waterbury	R. R. Jampolis
Thomas Whitley	A. E. Bartelme
E. W. Adkinson	Thomas J. Caney
C. G. Smith	W. F. Horn
G. M. Abbott	Frank D. Read
W. W. Boone	

AT TABLE NO. 8.

C. W. Bliss	J. A. Fishleigh
Charles W. Warner	C. W. Bassett
W. C. Hadley	Walter Chadband
Harry L. Zinzer	J. H. Graham
James H. Hoover	George W. Cope
S. J. Le Fevre	E. R. Turnbull
J. T. E. Ragsdale	A. P. Pierce
C. I. Mungusdorf	C. W. Bishop
Alex G. Hug	D. W. Longacre
Edward Snyder	Horace Crihfield
Martin B. Arnold	George W. Lorenz
Thomas Dowler	August Diedrich
R. E. L. Brooks	Benjamin Busch
T. G. Capps	J. A. Kerr
Archibald Birse	R. C. Cox
Thomas Wallis	Alex. McLachlan

Wm. Anderson
A. K. Parke
A. P. Grout
H. B. Powell
E. O. Weldin
A. L. Hayes
C. D. Taylor
Wm. Thompson
Edward P. Neel
Charles A. Hallum
R. A. Frazer
Fred Howard
Wm. J. Roberts

AT TABLE NO. 9.

V. P. Corey
I. D. Newmann
James H. Sterling
John C. Hallenbeck
James L. Morton
C. A. Wilcox
James M. Tenley
D. A. Clithero
James E. Burton
J. B. Abbott
Henry F. Sawtell
Wm. B. Moak
Thomas W. Bassett
E. H. Alling
Fred Duckett

When all were assembled, the Grand Chaplain, Rev. J. E. Jewett, invoked the divine blessing in the following words:

"Unto Thee, Great God, and Father of the Universe, we come with thanksgivings in our hearts, for the creative comforts that Thou hast prepared for us. But above these creative comforts, we thank Thee for the social food, and this visible opportunity for intercourse and fellowship, and we ask Thy blessing upon this as a fraternal gathering, and upon those things which shall make for us comfort, both materially and intellectually, to-night. Amen."

Then followed a full and free discussion of the menu provided for the occasion, a copy of which accompanies this report.

After the cloth had been removed, the M. E. Grand High Priest, Companion Nathaniel Bowditch, opened the symposium with the following address:

"Companions: As Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Illinois, I most cordially and fraternally welcome you to these ceremonies and festivities, which are intended to commemorate the organization of this Grand Chapter. One-half a century has elapsed since those hardy pioneers—the founders of this Grand Body—first met in Convocation to lay deep and enduring the foundations upon which rests this prosperous organization. To their zeal for and devotion to Capitular Masonry the Royal Craft of Illinois are much indebted for much of their present prosperity. Many Companions whose names have been made illustrious by history have enriched our roster. Our rolls of membership show over seventeen thousand names, and but one Grand Chapter in the world excels us in point of numbers. This is an achievement of which we may be justly proud.

"But in the midst of our rejoicings, we should not forget the difficulties and obstacles which beset our Capitular ancestors in their efforts to lay broad and deep the foundation upon which rests that splendid super-

structure—the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois. Many changes have transpired since that time. Remarkable discoveries, inventions and developments mark the progress of the past fifty years. In the realms of art, science, literature and commerce, wonderful revelations have occurred. But the grand old institution of Freemasonry suffers nothing by comparison.

"The historian of this occasion, Right Excellent Companion Warvelle, has prepared a very interesting and instructive sketch of all the events, as well as the services of those Companions whose zeal and efforts have contributed so much to the sum total that comprises the history of Capitular Masonry for the last fifty years in Illinois. Other Companions will respond to the various sentiments offered.

"Companions of this Grand Juurisdiction and our honored guests from abroad, again I welcome you. Your presence in such large numbers unmistakably indicates the deep interest you feel in the occasion which has called us together. May you bear to your firesides, both here at home and abroad, only the most pleasing recollections of the 'Semi-Centennial' of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois."

When the applause which followed the delivery of the foregoing address had subsided, the Grand High Priest said:

"Companions: In 1798 there was formed the first governing body of Royal Arch Masons in America, which has since come to be known as the 'General Grand Chapter of the United States.' We have with us to-night several Companions who are officers and representatives of that body. As constituents of the same, and in token of our loyalty thereto, I present this sentiment, 'The General Grand Chapter of the United States,' and I call upon M. E. Companion Joseph E. Dyas to respond."

M. E. Companion Dyas:

"M. E. Grand High Priest and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Illinois: In responding to the sentiment, 'The General Grand Chapter of the United States,' the opportunity is afforded me of performing a pleasing duty, of congratulating the Grand Chapter of Illinois, on behalf of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, on having arrived at its Semi-Centennial birthday, and it gives me pleasure to state that the General Grand Chapter of the United States has had no constituent more loyal to it during all that period than the Grand Chapter of Illinois. [Applause.]

"More than a hundred years ago—to be more exact, in the month of October, 1797—a few zealous Companions, representing the various Chapters in the Eastern States, met in the city of Boston, conferred together and organized a Royal Arch Organization, which they styled The Grand Chapter of the Northern States of America. They adopted a preamble and resolutions as to the position of that body, which was to make rules and regulations for Royal Arch Chapters and Grand Chapters, and to grant dispensations for Royal Arch Chapters. It was the general idea that was then agreed upon which was afterwards consummated by the organization of the national body which we now have. That organization met triennially. At a subsequent Convocation, they changed the name to the General Grand Chapter of the [then] Northern States of America. Subsequently,

again, at the Triennial of 1806, of that body, they changed the title again to the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America—the title which it now bears. The Jurisdiction was extended without limit, and that is really the Grand Body which is in existence to-day. It really was organized, as we have it to-day, at the Triennial Convocation of 1806.

"Now, that General Grand Chapter, from that time forward, went on and instituted Chapters throughout the United States and the Territories. It constituted Chapters in foreign countries. It did this service for Royal Arch Masonry. It organized Chapters throughout the Western States, which were then Territories, and when the Chapters in a Territory or State became sufficiently strong to maintain themselves, and could form a Grand Chapter, the General Grand Chapter then issued its warrant for a Grand Chapter, and surrendered further control over it. I will say, however, that the General Grand Chapter, up to quite a recent period, exercised jurisdiction over all Grand Chapters, as well as its immediate subordinates, and that it voluntarily relinquished that power over Grand Chapters.

"The General Grand Chapter to-day has but twenty-seven subordinate Chapters immediately under its jurisdiction. These Chapters are scattered through the Western States where there is no Grand Chapter, in the Territories, some in Honolulu, some in China, and one in Mexico. In its relations with the Grand Chapters, it is merely advisory. It has no power of discipline, censure—not even admonition or instruction. It is, however, the supreme judicial body of Royal Arch Masonry. It has power to decide questions and difficulties between Grand Chapters. It also retains the power to decide any question which may be certified to it by Grand Chapters.

"Now, Companions, it would be tedious, and is not exactly the right place, to pursue this subject further. I have given you a general outline of the origin, purposes and results of the General Grand Chapter of the United States. I will also say that this body meets triennially; that from the time of its organization, in the year 1797, up to the present time, there have been only nineteen Companions who have been installed in the exalted position of General Grand High Priest. If that policy be followed out, the present General Grand Master of the First Veil will be the thirtieth General High Priest. We have him here to-night. He certainly is in sufficient health to arrive at that period. It will be twenty-seven years from this time. [Laughter and applause.]

"Companions, when you look back at the long line of illustrious names of Companions who have presided over the Grand Chapter of Illinois, many of whom have held distinguished positions in the different walks of life, and, what is better, none of whom, by word or deed, in public, private or Masonic life, have brought discredit upon or tarnished the good name of Masonry; when you consider, further, that this Grand Chapter was organized fifty years ago, with a constituency of only six Chapters, representing less than 200 Royal Arch Masons; that to-day it has a constituency of 184 chartered Chapters, representing a membership of 17,000 Royal Arch Masons; that it is the second in the Grand Chapters of the General Grand Chapter—it is second only to the State of New York—you

HARMON G. REYNOLDS.

have indeed a proud record to look back on. And, Companions, your future is flattering. The admirable line of officers who were elected to-day, and the personnel of the Grand Chapter from which you have to draw the officers, and the Craft throughout the State, make it pretty certain that we can anticipate with certainty that the completion of the first century of this Grand Chapter will be as replete with happiness and prosperity as the happy event we are this night celebrating.

"And now, Companions, this is an occasion for jubilation and rejoicing. You have reason to congratulate yourselves on the past history of your Grand Chapter. You have reason to congratulate yourselves upon its present prosperous condition. You have reason to congratulate yourselves upon its bright prospects for the future; and amid all your rejoicings remember that the General Grand Chapter of the United States asks permission to join with you, and again tenders you its sincere congratulations." [Applause.]

The M. E. Grand High Priest:

"Companions: If the General Grand Chapter appears to be somewhat of a stranger, the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois needs no introduction to you. We are the Grand Chapter; we make its laws; we elect its officers; and were it not for your favor I should not have the pleasure of now presenting to you this sentiment, 'The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois,' and I call upon my illustrious successor—prospective successor—R. E. Companion Warvelle, to respond thereto." [Applause.]

R. E. Companion George W. Warvelle:

"Companions: My remarks, in responding to the sentiment proposed, will be very brief, for my voice has been heard so often in the councils of the Royal Craft of this jurisdiction that it has lost the charm of novelty. But, more than this, we have with us to-night, strangers within our gates, a number of distinguished and eloquent gentlemen whom you are anxious to hear, and who will be able to interest you far better than I can hope to do. Neither is there anything very inspiring in the mere mention of a corporate name; as a rule, it is proposed on occasions of this kind simply because it is regarded as a 'toast of obligation,' and the person responding thereto usually performs his task in a perfunctory sort of way as a matter of imposed duty.

"But in the sentiment that has been assigned to me, 'The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois,' I see more than a simple name, for beyond it I see the men who compose the organization, and beyond them the fraternal spirit that created and for more than half a century has maintained it. [Applause.] Thank you, Brethren; that was what I have been waiting for. The Grand High Priest has told you that I have prepared a history of the Grand Chapter. Well, so I have, and I doubt not that, from the manner in which that announcement was made, some of the Companions may have feared that when my time to speak arrived I was going to take advantage of your helpless and unprotected condition and flash that history upon you. If any of you have been laboring under that delusion, then I say, allay your fears, for I shall do nothing of the sort. The history, in due time, will be mailed to each of you, and you may peruse it, if you are so inclined, at your leisure.

"Whatever I have to say—and my remarks will be brief—will be on the ethical rather than the historical aspects of my subject. But as the historian of the Grand Chapter, and as I traced its origin, its development and its present growth, I was filled with admiration for those noble men who laid its foundation as well as those who since that time have directed its course and controlled its destinies; and as I noted the vicissitudes through which it has passed, the trials it has encountered, and the triumphs it has achieved, I saw, not the history of a mere corporate body, but a record of the moral and Masonic thought of this community for the last fifty years. Brethren, fifty years is a comparatively long period in the life of either an individual or an institution, and any association of men that can show for that length of time a continuous and uninterrupted existence; that can show that during that time it has kept pace with the moral progress and intellectual advancement of the age, and that at the end of such a period, filled with unceasing activity, continues to exhibit all the vigor of pristine youth, by such facts alone demonstrates its right to live and to receive the respect and esteem not only of its members, but of the civil society in which it is located. And that, Brethren, is the record of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois. During all of this time it has stood as an exponent and an exemplar of all that men most esteem in the moral and social virtues; without cant, it has preached the doctrines of a pure religion; without ostentation, it has practiced the works of charity and corporal mercy; and in the days that are to come, predicating the future upon the past, may we not confidently assert that among the great moral agencies of the times, none, within its own sphere, will be found asserting a more widespread or powerful influence for good than the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois." [Applause.]

The M. E. Grand High Priest:

"Companions: We have with us to-night as honored guests a large number of venerable Companions, who may well be styled the fathers of the craft. They are the men who have guided this Grand Chapter during the years that have passed. They are worthy of every honor that we can bestow upon them, and I offer you this sentiment, 'The Past Grand High Priests of Illinois,' and will ask M. E. Companion Pearson to respond."

M. E. Companion John M. Pearson:

"M. E. Sir and Companions: Perhaps some of you have heard it intimated to-day that we are fifty years old. I have heard it myself once or twice, but I want to say that we have elected a Grand High Priest fifty-one times, which goes to prove that we are up to date. [Laughter.] When I went into the Grand Chapter of Illinois, I was something like a boy that went to school for the first time. He looked upon the big boys—those boys that were older and taller and stronger than he was—with a great deal of respect. If he did not, he soon found out that he had to. So when I entered the Grand Chapter of Illinois, those who were Past Grand High Priests then were men who, from the bottom of my heart, I respected and esteemed as knowing more than any other man could ever possibly know about Royal Arch Masonry in the State of Illinois, without a thought that I should, in my imagination or ambition, attain that rank myself. Of

those Grand High Priests, all but three of them I had the honor and the pleasure of knowing personally—a noble fellowship of noble Companions. The presiding Grand High Priest at that time was Nelson G. Ellwood, of Joliet, the only one of our Companions whom the Grand Chapter honored so far as to elect him three times in succession as the head of our Order. Of the others, I may say that I have known them all. And if there be a debt that I owe to Masonry, and my own old Chapter at home, that weighs heavier upon me, and affords me more satisfaction and attaches me to that old Chapter and to this Grand Chapter, it is the fact that, through their help and your help, I have been admitted to this noble fellowship of men.

"Of those who occupied the position before I held it, but three are now living. Two of them are within the sound of my voice. One of them has been honored and respected by the election to the same position in the State where he now resides—in Nebraska. He is honored and respected there, as he was here. And the rest of the Companions all the way down —run through the line in your mind, those of you that can recollect them —I think I could recall every one of them—and where will you find, in all this proud State of Illinois, a company of men, a company of Companions, that you would prefer to be an associate? So, Most Excellent, all that I will say of this matter now, it is too long a story to begin and repeat their names. Begin with him who now occupies the position of our Grand Treasurer, and the next one, whom you all know as Grand Secretary of our Grand Lodge for so many years—by the way, the Grand High Priest who first appointed me, without any solicitation on my own part or any of my friends, to a subordinate position in the Grand Chapter at that time—they are with us, and I would rather far that they had been called to speak to this sentiment than I myself; not that they esteem the honor higher; not that their fellowship has been any closer than mine, for in all this company that live, or be they dead, there is not one whom, if I could possibly meet to-day, I would not gladly take by the hand and rest content with the belief that they would be glad to meet and greet me as one of their number. This may seem a little thing, but to me it is not. The companionship of those almost fifty Companions has been a source to me of more pleasure and satisfaction to me than any other connection I have ever held in my life outside of my own family.

"And now, Most Excellent, I will not detain the Grand Chapter any longer, because I firmly expect to be with you when you celebrate your next Centennial [laughter] and if possible I will speak on this same subject again." [Cheers.]

The M. E. Grand High Priest:

"Companions: The Grand Chapter of Illinois is but one of the many stars which shine in the constellations of our Masonic firmament; but while they are separate in their organization, they are all one in purpose and design, and I offer you this sentiment, 'Our Noble Contemporaries,' and call upon M. E. Companion Swanstrom, Grand High Priest of Minnesota, to respond."

M. E. Companion A. P. Swanstrom:

"M. E. Toastmaster and Companions: It seems to me that the senti-

ment assigned to me at this board this evening is one of such vast proportions that I am afraid that I cannot do it justice.

"Had I the eloquence of a Warvelle, or a Munn, or a Smith, or a great many others of your Jurisdiction, or had I been called upon to respond to a toast for my own Jurisdiction, which would certainly have been a very pleasant one, the task would have been very easy. We of the North Star Jurisdiction are yet in our swaddling clothes, compared with the Grand Jurisdiction of Illinois. You have 184 Chapters; we have sixty. You have 17,000 members; we have 7,000. By the time we have arrived at your age, and with the number of Chapters that you have, we hope to have 17,000. What we may lack, however, in numbers we do try to make up in enthusiasm.

"But, Excellent High Priest, standing here at the threshold, as it were, of the last half of your Centennial, and trying to respond for forty-two Grand Jurisdictions, with their 2,500 subordinate Chapters, and over 200,000 Companions, I believe I but echo the sentiment of every one of them, and I believe there springs up from the hearts of every one of them, nothing but words of good cheer and good feeling for the years to come. [Cries of "Hear! Hear!"]

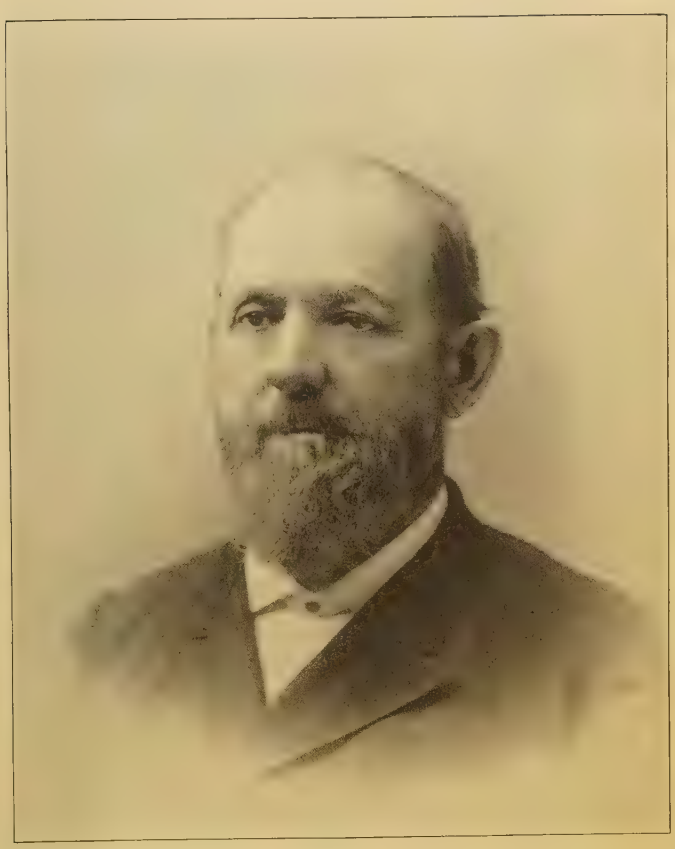
"When I look back upon the past fifty years of the Grand Jurisdiction of Illinois, the second largest in the galaxy of States, and see what grand results have been attained; when we contemplate the triumphs of the bright and shining lights, not only in Capitular Masonry, but other bodies of Masonry as well, we can truthfully say that they builded better than they knew. The seed early sown fell upon good ground and brought forth fruit, and the tenets which our beloved institution teaches, and tries to live up to and practice, has brought forth good, square and true work, that is the envy and admiration of every Craftsman wheresoever dispersed. We rejoice at your success, and we congratulate you upon this golden occasion. May peace be within your walls, and Prosperity within your palaces, and may you so continue to build that within these walls future generations, with your faithfulness, your zeal, can say that centuries come and go, let storms assail—yet all men will say, the old men builded well—builded well. I thank you to be called here for this toast. As I said before, it is one of great opportunities—one that some one else could have filled a great deal better than I can, and I thank you for the compliment." [Applause.]

The M. E. Grand High Priest:

"Companions: There is nothing in this world that exists without a purpose, and Freemasonry presents no exception to the rule. It has its mission, and well does it perform it, but how well I shall leave to the consideration of the next speaker, and I give you this sentiment, 'The Mission of the Royal Arch,' and call upon M. E. Companion Swain, General Grand Scribe of the General Grand Chapter, to respond."

M. E. Companion William C. Swain:

"Most Excellent Grand High Priest and Companions: Not being a trained speaker, I purpose to read a few words, but I am going to depart from the usual custom by trying to talk to the subject, and I promise you that I will be brief.



CHARLES FISHER.

THE OLDEST MEMBER.

"There seems to be an impression among many of our Companions that the mission of the Royal Arch is to furnish a stepping-stone to the Asylum, where we can deck ourselves with the feathers and trappings of the Templar. Such is not the idea of the true Templar, and consequently I am justified in assuming that such is not the feeling here.

"What is the mission of the Royal Arch? What but a search for Truth? And, as it lies not in the power of man to find or to know all truth, we may well say the mission is a large and broad subject. But as each new discovery leads to another, the search in itself broadens the view and quickens the heart and intellect of him who searches.

"The mission of the Royal Arch is, as is the mission of Masonry, to impress upon us the knowledge of the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man; to teach us that we are our brother's keeper; that the good of one is the good of all; that, as we need our brother's care, so he needs ours.

" 'The mighty God may dwell alone,
With inward glorying;
But God's chief angel waiteth for
A brother's voice, to sing.'

"The mission of the Royal Arch is to teach self-reliance—to press on in the right path, overcoming all obstacles, and braving every danger. Its mission is to teach humility and reliance upon God and reverence for His Holy Name. The mission of the Royal Arch, as of the whole Masonic fraternity, is to show the world that we are a progressive as well as a conservative society—not built upon the ashes of a dead past, but the full fruition and substance of what our fathers hoped for, and the evidence of a civilization they dimly foreshadowed. We are living in a period of transition. Around us are turmoil and unrest, and our duties are more complicated than those of our fathers. And a conservative society like ours, which fully understands the principles for which our fathers contended, should serve as a rallying point for thoughtful men and women of all classes. Masonry teaches us to be patriotic citizens. We have a country and a flag which have cost us much in blood and treasure.

" 'For every stripe of stainless hue,
For every star in the field of blue,
Ten thousand of the brave and true
Have laid them down and died.'

"And patriotic steadfastness and determination are necessary, as well as forbearance and charity, if we would transmit unimpaired to our children the institutions we have received from our fathers.

"But above all, the mission of the Royal Arch, as well as of Masonry as a whole, is to teach the broad lesson of charity, union and organization—man as a member of the whole race, instead of man as a solitary unit, whose only thought is to supply his own wants, whose motto is, 'What we want we'll grab, and call it ours.' The whole trend of modern civilization is towards union, of which the trowel is the symbol, as is the sword of its opposite. But Masonry introduces a leaven into this unity, without which it works in vain—the broad principle of brotherly love and charity.

And it is proper to consider the true meaning of this word, Charity. It has a broader significance than putting our hands in our pockets and relieving the wants of a hungry fellow being. It means toleration of the views of those who differ from us, and consideration for the limitations of those who offend. A man commits a hideous crime, which arouses the community. In unreasoning anger, the man is seized and lynched. The more charitable, in their turn, become angry with the mob and say: 'Cannot you see that while it was necessary for the criminal to be removed, he was merely acting within the limitations of his own nature and education. He has never had the chance to learn better?' Then comes the man with still broader view, and says, 'What you say is true; but what right have you to be angry with this mob? Are they not also acting within the limitations of their natures, which, though higher than those of the criminal, are not up to your mark? First cast the beam out of your own eye, before condemning them.' And thus this principle is capable of indefinite extension.

"And this is the higher, broader form of charity which Masonry should teach. And it should teach, as well, to avoid pride of opinion,—to believe that our brother who differs from us, differs honestly, and that, possibly, he may be right, and we may be wrong. To say with the philosopher, 'While I am firmly convinced that two and two make four, yet, if my friend should say that two and two make five, I should be bound to give him a respectful hearing." If we do not see ourselves as others see us, how much less we do see others, either as they see themselves, or as they are. I remember reading of a young, inexperienced girl who wrote a novel, and having no results of observation to record, wrote out her own feelings and experiences. The novel was a success, but she made her friends into mortal enemies, they each accusing her of taking them for her model. I remember another story of a clergyman who wished to preach directly at one of his parishioners, and described his foibles as well as he knew how. The parishioner came to him, at the close of the sermon, and congratulated him upon it, and told him how well it fitted another, but never recognized the fact that it was meant for him. If I were a preacher and wished to preach at a man, so that he would know I meant him, I would not talk of his characteristics as they appeared to me, but would reach down into my own inward experiences, and hurl at him denunciations of meannesses and weaknesses which I had drawn from my own inner consciousness, and of which I was ashamed in myself; and then he would accuse me of personalities, and if he was pugnacious, I would have a fight on my hands at once.

"The broad charity which I have endeavored to describe, is indeed the trowel which will spread the cement of brotherly love over all the world, and when that happy period arrives, then will the sword of the Templar be useless, except for that symbol of the Cross which it carries; for the time will have arrived when swords shall be beaten into ploughshares, and spears into pruning hooks and nations shall not learn war any more."

The M. E. Grand High Priest:

"Companions: No pent-up Utica confines the sphere of influence of

Royal Arch Masonry. It exists and is practiced in every civilized country throughout the world, and I beg to propose this toast, 'To the Royal Craft Universal,' and for a response I will call upon M. E. Companion Reid, Grand Zerrubbabel, or what corresponds to Grand High Priest, of the Grand Chapter of Canada."

M. E. Companion W. G. Reid:

"Most excellent High Priest and excellent companions of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois: Allow me first to thank you and to thank you sincerely for the opportunity which has brought me here to-night. Allow me also to thank you for asking me to respond to a toast that I feel totally inadequate to do justice to. At the same time I suppose I must try and take a leaf from the brief and pithy speeches which I have heard here to-night and make it very brief and short. But if you will pardon me for just one moment I would depart from that toast, which is going to be brief, just for one word regarding the progress that has forcibly impressed itself upon my mind since coming to this magnificent western metropolis—city of most magnificent distances, and right well did I find it out in coming here. I knew it in coming here to-night [laughter]. And a state which in all its resources—almost I might say a nation within itself, I say to you, Companions, you should be justly proud of your heritage.

"Now, just a word on this toast, The Grand Royal Craft Universal.' It is too large for me. It is too extensive. I did have a speech made out that was going to take three hours to read, but after seeing this immense city and the festivities around here to-night I left that speech at home. So I didn't bring it here. We will stop for one moment and just take this state of Illinois fifty years ago, when this Grand Chapter was formed here, small in numbers—insignificant in fact in many ways, and what has it come to to-day with its magnificent membership and 187 Chapters on its roll? Stop for one moment, Companions, and think of that beautiful ritual, that magnificent sentiment, that loving language which is composed in our ritual in the work of our Royal Craft. It is worked in plain language, a ritual that brings together hundreds of such men, from all over the continent, such as invited me here, and such as we see here to-night; that sentiment of universal amity in this Royal Craft is not too high for the President of the United States, for the heir apparent of the British throne, for the Emperor of Germany, and for the best statesmen and judicial minds of our country. It is not too high for them to leave those functions and fraternize with their Companions. Neither is it too lofty for the artisan or the farmer. Is there anything to-day that has such a blending, wielding, elevating and uplifting influence on this earth as the grand institution known as Masonry? working all over this broad continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific, spreading its Masonic institutions and influences through this royal craft with its benign influence, removing the barnacles of selfishness, elevating and bringing men together as it should. Why, we live here in this world as far apart, perhaps, as the two poles politically, socially and commercially, and we come into this hall and that magnificent temple, that structure of architectural beauty which I was in to-day, and we come together on one level and we meet and grasp one

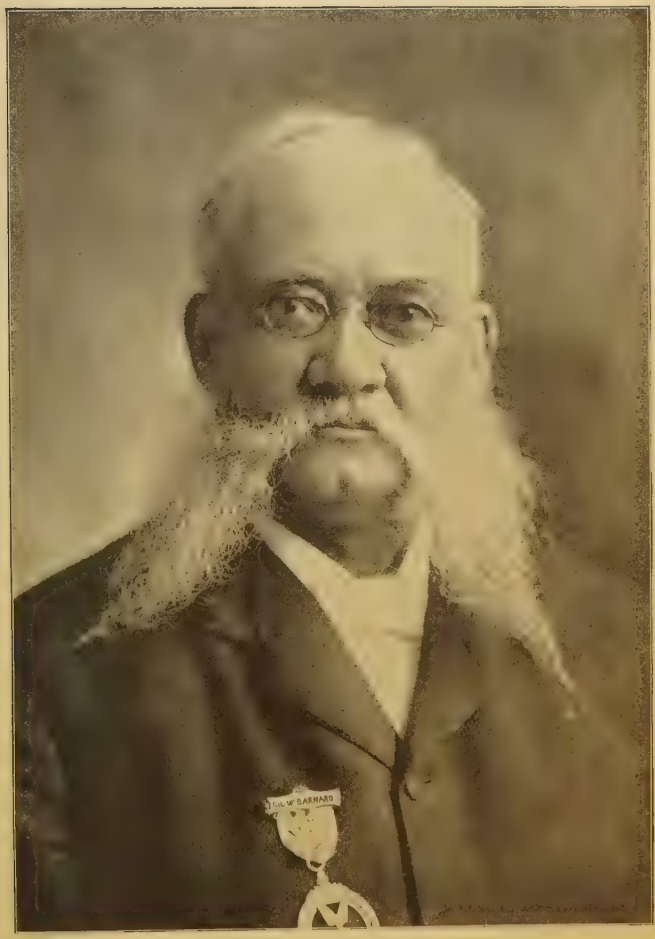
another's hands and mingle in the utmost goodfellowship and we are the better for it. [Applause.]

And again I say to you, Companions, where the two flags, the one that I have the proud honor to claim the protection of and that beautiful Stars and Stripes that I am looking at around this hall to-night—those two flags float over the two nations and the two peoples that are living under them are higher and loftier in principle and brotherly love as we meet here to-night, than any other nation on the face of this earth. [Applause.] And I believe, when I say it, that that very same sentiment and that very elevating influence which is teaching and elevating us up to-day has brought those two nations together in such a way as they never were before in the history of their progress. They never were known to be cemented so well together and they can defy the world when they stand up close together. [Applause.]

As an instance of what Masonry has done a few years ago, I will cite a small incident in the life of one of our lodges, a hundred years ago, on the other side. When the great general, George Washington, died in Washington, the news of his death took just six months to be carried to my town, and if any of you ever go there I will show to you the actual record of the old British lodge, one hundred and ten years old, where the Senior Warden moved and the Junior Warden seconded, that we buy ten yards of ribbon to wear in loving remembrance of Brother George Washington. [Applause.]

There is a dividing line that divides nations and the flag that floats over them, and I tell you there is no institution—I don't say that our Order is a church, neither do I say that it is denominational, but I am going to tell you that the consecrated essence of it is that if we were in church we would be divided by factions and sectional feelings of one kind or another, but we are broader, higher and loftier and more universal than any church, and the best ally to-day of the Christian church is the Masonic Order. [Applause.] I will say further, while I say there is a dividing line dividing nations, that where Royal Craft Masonry has been introduced in its universality it has obliterated that line of demarkation, and I am here to-night as one of you, and I feel just as happy and as contented as though I were in the city of Toronto. [Applause.]

Now, then, one word—but I don't know whether I dare do so, but I am going to take the chances. [Cries of Go on."] I am a Scotchman, a good deal like the old chief of the clans, you know. But I must tell it to you here. The old chief had licked everybody in Scotland. He didn't know anybody to lick in Ireland [laughter] I will admit that. He had licked everybody in England, and he couldn't find any more to lick and he cried. A friend asked him, "What's the matter?" "Well," he says, "there ain't anybody else to lick." "Nobody else to lick? Yes, there is. You haven't licked the king of Heaven." Says he, "Where is he? John," says he, "go and tell him to get ready and I will go and lick him right away." So John went, and three or four days after he came back and he says, "Well, what did the king of Heaven say?" He says, "You can have his kingdom for the asking." "He says what?" "He says you can have his kingdom for the



GIL. W. BARNARD.

asking." He says, "You go back and tell him there is no damn Scotchman that will ever put his foot in his kingdom for his incivility."

I am going to stop these rambling remarks of mine. As I told you, I left my speech at home, down in my valise. I don't think I ought to say any more, but I would like to say this, that I am immensely impressed with the magnitude of this immense western metropolis. I am immensely impressed with what I have seen of your city, and what I know of your state. I am immensely impressed with the grand pile of architectural beauty down there somewhere—I don't know [laughter]—some miles from here. I am also immensely impressed with the magnificent surroundings of this banquet hall, and I believe that I am to-night having the distinguished honor of addressing the intelligence, the beauty and the wealth of this fair city. Thank you, most excellent High Priest. Just a word. I will carry back to Canada with me the happy remembrance of the craft's hospitality which I have received at your hands. [Applause.]

The M. E. Grand High Priest:

"Companions: We have with us one of the youngest, but by no means the smallest, of the officers of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and a Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Kansas. Therefore, in recognition of the far west, I propose a toast to 'Bleeding Kansas,' and call upon my modest friend, M. E. Companion Bestor G. Brown, for a response."

M. E. Companion Bestor G. Brown:

M. E. Sir: I think you are through with your programme. I know I don't find that here. I think I had the opportunity to-day of expressing myself in behalf of Kansas, Indiana and Illinois. I think that is a combination that you can play to beat the world. There is nothing that I can say in behalf of the General Grand Body that has honored me, that has placed me in its junior position—that subject has been most admirably covered by a citizen of your state, the General Grand King, Dyas.

"I have received many courtesies at your hands, and I feel a delicacy in imposing further upon your time. I am much like one of my ebony friends, who constitute a large proportion of our population in Kansas. He had won the good respect of his employer, had been married and had one child to bless the union. One morning after, his employer, after the child was about six or nine months old, as his porter came in, says, "Sam, come here." Why don't you have that child of yours baptized? The child is old enough; you want to raise the child in Christian influences."

"Well," he says, "I will tell you, Boss, I am not quite ready to have that child baptized; I is a poor man, a very poor man."

His employer says, "The condition of wealth has nothing to do with the rite of baptism at all. I don't understand what you mean?"

"Well," he says, "I is a poor man, I don't like to have the child baptized just now."

"Why, Sam, you have got the wrong idea; it won't cost anything to have the child baptized."

"Well," he says, "it won't cost anything to have the child baptized, but if I have it baptized I have got to take him to that minister what married

me and the old woman. He says I was to pay him $5 for marrying me, and I owe him $2 yet, and I think he would hesitate about baptizing a child that was not paid for." [Laughter.] I have not had the opportunity of repaying you for your kindness, therefore I feel the same delicacy that my colored friend did. The remarks this evening have very much impressed me, especially the distinguished gentleman who immediately preceded me. Now, notwithstanding the fact that I told you the truth this morning, that I was born within Indiana I can legitimately claim a Scotch lineage. [Laughter.] I do not mention this geographical condition for the purpose of getting into any more of a controversy at all, but the line of remarks have been to the one thought which should appeal to every gentleman under circumstances of this kind, and it brings to my mind that scriptural fable which has been held up in our literature for eighteen hundred years as the type of a man of selfish thought, of narrow mind, of egotism, the Pharisee who thanked God that he was not like other men, and as I have thought about it, the more I believe that he was not such a bad man after all; that perhaps it was his modesty that led him to offer such a prayer to Heaven, for I should feel more like kneeling in the Temple myself and thanking God that I am like other men, if it is to be the exaltation of the other men. [Applause.]

"The companionship and fellowship of Masonry is that which surrounds us. It is that which brings heart to heart, and in the excellent words of our Canadian Companion removes the barnacles that the selfishness of life fastens upon us even before we are aware of it. We find in this love of fellowman the highest type of Christianity. You might as well have expected to hear that stringed instrument (a harp) that stood in the room here some moments ago, even though struck by gentle maiden fingers, to have yielded a pleasing sound with false strings therein, as to expect human life to be attuned to the divine harmony when there are present discords, selfishness and the absence of love of fellow. [Applause.]

"The influence and tendency of this great institution and the characteristic feeling of gatherings like this is to bring man to man, not to give him opportunity for gastronomic feeds, not to tickle his palate, not to give him opportunity to disport himself in regalia and devices of any kind, but to give him the opportunity to know his fellow, and I give you but this one thought, that I defy a man who hears my voice to deny the statement that none of us stop long enough in our hurry and hustle through life to know our fellowman. [Applause.] One half the evil in the world is but the thinking of it and the impression and the judgment follows in most cases, of your evil man—is because you do not stop to get acquainted with him. [Hear, hear.]

"This association and this gathering affords the opportunity where neither baubles or merit influence; the poor man in laboring man's clothes cuts aught of difference, but where we all meet on the common level with the opportunity to grasp one another by the hand, and so your inner souls meet together. This is the mission of Masonry, and I am satisfied, from what I have seen in the past two days, that in the illustration of that mission the Grand Chapter of Illinois will ever, as in the past, press on

with undiminished fervor that will make your centennial reunion a time of rejoicing of all good men."

During the repast the mandolin orchestra discoursed its sweetest strains, and at the conclusion thereof the Lexington quartet again rendered a few of their best songs, and at low twelve the banquet closed in peace and harmony, and the Companions retired from the scene.

Chicago, October 8, 1900.

Dear and Excellent Companion:

By reference to the general invitation heretofore mailed to you it will be seen that it is proposed to commemorate the Semi-Centennial of the organization of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois by appropriate exercises. Among other features there will be a complimentary banquet, to be given on the evening of October 25. The Committee on Invitations have been instructed to extend to you a fraternal invitation to be present and participate in the social amenities and good cheer of that occasion.

In order that the Banquet Committee may be enabled to make suitable arrangements, and that all may be provided for, it is necessary that we should know, in advance, how many will be in attendance. We enclose, for your convenience, an addressed postal card, and, in the event of your acceptance of this invitation, please sign and return the same to us not later than October 20, 1900.

Admission to the banquet room will be by card, and the Banquet Committee announce that plates will be reserved for those only who signify their acceptance of the invitation on or before the date last above named.

With fraternal salutation,

THE COMMITTEE ON INVITATIONS,

Geo. W. Warvelle, Chairman.

SEMI-CENTENNIAL MEDAL—OBVERSE.

SEMI-CENTENNIAL MEDAL—REVERSE.

SEMI-CENTENNIAL MEDAL.

To commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the organization of Grand Chapter the committee caused to be struck a solid bronze medal of neat and attractive design, an illustration of which is herewith given. The obverse is a facsimile of the great seal of Grand Chapter; the reverse a commemorative sentence with the dates of organization and of the semi-centennial celebration.

The device on the obverse consists of the words—"GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF ILLINOIS"—surrounding the interlaced triangles, or what is Masonically known as the "seal of Solomon," from which proceeds a radiation representing the mystic illumination. This device, which was adopted by Grand Chapter at or near the time of its organization, is one of the oldest symbols known to Masonry and to the ancient mysteries out of which it is supposed to have been evolved. In all of the ancient occult sciences it is called the "sign of the Macrocosm" and the original symbolic import has been retained by the Masonic fraternity. The reverse bears the following legend: "1850—COMMEMORATING THE SEMI-CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY—1900."

Five hundred of these medals were struck and a specimen given to every member of the Grand Chapter in attendance on the semi-centennial convocation. The die was then ordered destroyed. The medal has been much admired, both for the beauty of its design and the superior character of the work bestowed upon it, and, as the years accumulate, it will continue to increase in value, until finally, like all mementos of this character, it will become rare and difficult of attainment by those who collect and preserve the memorials of the craft.

CHARLES H. PATTON. ALFRED A. WHIPPLE. ROBERT L. McKINLAY.

THE ABSENT ONES.

In response to the invitation sent out by the committee a large number of acknowledgments were received containing the regrets of the writers on account of their inability to be present and participate. Among others the committee note the following:

R. C. Webb, G. H. P., Michigan.
Hal T. Jefferson, G. H. P., Kentucky.
F. W. Beardsley, Grand Scribe, Connecticut.
Graff M. Acklin, P. G. H. P., Ohio.
Albert L. Anthony, P. G. H. P., Rhode Island.
Francis E. White, Grand Sec., Nebraska.
Louis Ziegler, P. G. H. P., Washington.
George B. Wells, P. G. H. P., Pennsylvania.
Robert L. Colding, Grand Scribe, Georgia.
Louis G. Levoy, P. G. H. P., South Dakota.
Wm. L. Bush, D. G. H. P., Colorado.
John Humphreys, Grand King, California.
James H. Price, Grand Sec., Delaware.
William Ross, Grand Scribe, Nova Scotia.
Alpheus A. Keene, Grand Sec., New Mexico.
Alfred A. Guthrie, Grand King, New York.
Wm. R. Greene, Grand Sec., Rhode Island.
Richard Lambert, Grand Sec., Louisiana.
Samuel J. Moore, D. G. H. P., South Dakota.
Charles B. Manchester, Grand Scribe, Rhode Island.
Geo. C. Woolson, G. H. P., New Jersey.
W. J. Hubard, Grand Scribe, Virginia.
J. T. Barron, Grand Sec., South Carolina.
J. F. Pierson, G. H. P., Louisiana.
Frederic G. Brecht, G. H. P., Arizona.
Will H. Whyte, Grand Sec., Quebec.
Henry O. Kline, Grand Scribe, Pennsylvania.
Yancey C. Blalock, Grand Sec., Washington.
Charles Cary, Grand Sec., Pennsylvania.
Wm. H. Grosscup, D. G. H. P., New Jersey.
James A. Hoyt, Grand Rep. of Illinois, South Carolina.
Nelson Y. Dungun, Grand Scribe, New Jersey.
Wilber P. Webster, Grand Sec., Florida.
W. W. Van Winkle, G. H. P., West Virginia.
Harry Galbraith, G. H. P., Delaware.
Geo. J. Bennett, Grand Sec., Canada.
H. LeRoy Fuller, G. H. P., Quebec.
Warren G. Reynolds, Grand Sec., Vermont.
Edwin F. Gibbs, G. H. P., Wisconsin.
Fred. Greenwood, G. H. P., Virginia.
John L. Hill, G. H. P., Connecticut.

W. M. Cunningham, P. G. H. P., Ohio.
Geo. A. Pettigrew, Grand Sec., South Dakota.
Clarence R. Hatton, Grand Scribe, New York.
Charles Clark, Grand King, Maryland.
Samuel W. Waddle, P. G. H. P., Illinois.
J. Gilman Waite, Grand Sec., Massachusetts.

The time did not permit of the reading of any letters at the banquet table, but from the many received, containing congratulations and good wishes for the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois, the committee have selected the following as indicative of the general spirit which pervaded all of them:

LETTERS RECEIVED.

Sydney, N. S. W., November 5, 1900.

Dear Sir and Excellent Comp: I have received with much pleasure your kind and thoughtful invitation to be present at the services in connection with the semi-annual anniversary of the G. R. A. Chapter of Illinois, at Chicago. Whilst it was impossible to attend, I sincerely appreciate the brotherly feeling which induced you to invite brethren so distantly situated, and, whilst thanking you most heartily for remembering your Companions in these distant lands, and thus encouraging them to follow you in the great work which your Chapters, as we read, are doing in the great States of America, I beg to offer you my heartiest good wishes for the continued prosperity of the Supreme Order in your territory.

With all best fraternal greetings,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

WHITELEY KING,

President Grand Committee of G. P., Supreme G. C. of N. S. W.

Ex. Comp. Gil. W. Barnard, Masonic Temple, Chicago, U. S. A.

Everton Villa, Spenseled St., Clifton Hill,
Victoria, Australia, November 3, 1900.

N. Bowditch, Esq., Grand High Priest, Grand Royal Arch Chapter, Illinois:

Dear Sir and Most Eminent Companion: I thank you very much for the kind invitation to your semi-centennial anniversary on October 25, 1900, and although I regret I cannot be there it shows the Brotherhood that exists in all parts of the world. I trust that you will have a splendid gathering on the 25th and 26th, and that you will kindly send us a report of the proceedings, as it will be very interesting to us in Victoria.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

E. COULSON, P. Z.,
Grand J.

Melbourne, October 31, 1900.

Companion Gil. W. Barnard, Grand Secretary Grand R. A. Chapter of Illinois:

Dear Sir and Rt. Ex. Companion: I am in due receipt of your letter of the 8th ult. (to hand yesterday), covering invitation to be present at the semi-centennial of your Grand Chapter, for which accept best thanks.

I trust everything passed off satisfactorily, and that you had a record attendance. Yours fraternally,

JOHN BRAIM, P. G. S.,
G. Scribe E.

Austin, Minn., October 6, 1900.

Gil. W. Barnard, Masonic Temple, Chicago:

My Dear Sir and Companion: I beg to acknowledge receipt of your kind invitation to be present at the semi-centennial anniversary of the Grand Chapter of Illinois. I very much regret that my duties are such that I cannot possibly accept. I would be delighted to be present if I possibly could. With fraternal greeting to yourself and all the Companions of your Grand Chapter, I am,

Cordially and fraternally yours,

NATHAN KINGSLEY,
G.·. G.·. C.·. H.·.

Montreal, October 5, 1900.

Gil. W. Barnard, Esq., Grand Scribe E., Chicago:

Dear Sir and Rt. Ex. Companion: I beg to acknowledge the receipt of invitation to attend the semi-centennial exercises of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois, in the city of Chicago, October 25 and 26, and would express my great regret that the present state of my health will not permit me to avail myself of the same.

I regret this the more, as for many years I have had the honor of representing your Grand Chapter near our Grand Chapter of Quebec, and yet never had the opportunity of visiting your Grand Body when in session. Kindly present my congratulations to your Grand Body (when in session) on attaining their fiftieth anniversary, and my good wishes for you on that occasion. I will be with you in spirit though absent in body. Yours fraternally,

ALBERT D. NELSON,
Past M. E. Gr. Z.,

And Representative of the Grand Chapter of Illinois Near the Grand Chapter of Quebec.

War Department, Washington, D. C., October 6, 1900.

Gil. W. Barnard, Esq., Grand Secretary, Masonic Temple, Chicago, Ill.:

My Dear Companion: I am in receipt of the invitation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois to be present and participate in the ex-

ercises attending its semi-centennial anniversary at Chicago on the 25th and 26th instants.

I regret that I cannot be present on that happy occasion to rejoice with you and the other Royal Arch Masons of the great State of Illinois upon the good fortune and prosperity which have attended their labors during the first fifty years of the existence of your Grand Chapter.

May still greater prosperity and success attend their efforts to promote the welfare of the craft during its second half-century, is the sincere wish of Yours truly and fraternally,

GEO. E. CORSON,
G.·. G.·. R.·. A.·. Captain,
G.·. G.·. Chapter, U. S. A.

Kansas City, Mo., October 23, 1900.

Gil. W. Barnard, Grand Secretary, Grand Chapter, Chicago, Ill.:

Dear Sir and R. E. Comp.: Excuse the delay in answering the invitation to attend the semi-centennial anniversary of your Grand Chapter, October 25 and 26. Extend to the Companions my sincere regret for being unable to be with them, and also the wishes that while the first fifty years of the Grand Chapter of Illinois has been a glorious one, may the coming one be even more for humanity, for your great State and our country.

Yours fraternally,
W. F. KUHN, P. G. H. P.

Saint John, N. B., October 19, 1900.

Gil. W. Barnard, Esq., Grand Secretary, Grand R. A. Chapter of Illinois, Chicago:

R:. E:. Companion: I have to thank you for an invitation to be present at the semi-centennial anniversary of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois, to be held at Chicago, October 25-26, and much regret that I am unable to accept. The Grand R. A. Chapter of this Province extends to your Grand Royal Arch Chapter hearty congratulations on reaching its fiftieth birthday, and for the future abundant success.

Courteously and fraternally,
JOHN A. WATSON,
Grand High Priest.

Denver, Col., October 26, 1900.

Gil. W. Barnard, Esq., Masonic Temple, Chicago, Ill.:

My Dear Brother: I am in receipt of your very kind invitation to participate in the exercises attending the semi-centennial anniversary of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois.

I regret very much that I will not be able to be with you in the flesh. * * *

Hoping that you will have a good time, and that you may live to attend the centennial anniversary, I remain, as ever,

Yours fraternally,
A. B. McGAFFEY.

REV. JAMES E. JEWETT. LEROY A. GODDARD. GEO. F. HENTHORNE.

McMinnville, Ore., October 2, 1900.

Nathaniel Bowditch, M. E. Grand High Priest, Aurora, Ill.:

Dear Sir and M. E. Companion: I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your invitation to be present at the semi-centennial anniversary of your Grand Chapter. And I can assure you that nothing would afford me more pleasure than to be present upon that occasion. But owing to the distance and business engagements I must forego that pleasure.

But in behalf of the Royal Craft of Oregon, I wish to extend fraternal greetings, and wish you a most enjoyable time upon that occasion, and many a happy return of the same.

Again thanking you, I remain, very truly and fraternally,

O. O. HODSON,
M. E. Grand High Priest.

Cedar Rapids, October 23, 1900.

Nathaniel Bowditch, Grand High Priest, Care Gil. Barnard, Masonic Temple, Chicago, Ill.:

Dear Sir and Companion: It had been both my hope and expectation as late as last evening to meet you in Grand Chapter Convocation, and so unite with you in the celebration of its fiftieth anniversary. I had arranged to leave this evening for Chicago so as to attend to-morrow evening the meeting of the Veterans at General Smith's Inn. I was not well at all, you know, when in Cincinnati, suffering from the illness I had during the summer in old Mexico. I have had two or three returns of the prostration, which have very much weakened me and incapacitated me for labor or exertion. This morning I find myself in such a physical condition that it would be the very height of imprudence for me to think for a moment of leaving home. I have, therefore, and most reluctantly, abandoned my plan of going to-night or at all, and so cannot be with you, as I had so fondly anticipated and wished. I trust and believe that you will have a pleasant and successful meeting, and that the event of so much interest to the Masons of Illinois will be properly celebrated. Convey to the Companions who may be assembled my sincere regret that I cannot join them as I had anticipated. With assurances of personal regard and friendship, I remain,

Truly and fraternally yours,

T. S. PARVIN.

Denver, Col., October 5, 1900.

Comp. Gil. W. Barnard, Chicago, Illinois:

Dear Sir and Companion: I have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of the gracious invitation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois to be present at and participate in the exercises attending the semi-centennial anniversary of that most excellent body.

It would give me the greatest pleasure to attend, but will be unable to do so, and am compelled to mail my regrets.

I note in the roster of Grand Officers that M.·. E.·. Companion Bow-

ditch is Grand High Priest, and that M. E. Companion Patton is Grand King. It has been a good many years now since I had the pleasure of meeting either of them, but when M.·. E.·. Companion Bowditch "revived us again" in the Council at Belleville, I was much impressed by the manner he assisted certain worthies to escape by way of the King's garden. He may remember. Bear to him my regards.

Let me burden you with a word from me to M.·. E.·. Companion Patton, the R.·. E.·. Grand King. Tell him for me that the Masons of Colorado are grand men, whose hearts are always as warm as our glorious sunshine; whose minds are as broad as our limitless plains; whose unselfish brotherly love is as pure as Colorado's air, and whose goodness piles up higher than our snow-capped peaks, but after all, to me, Illinois Masons are "like the pies mother used to make"—the very best of all.

I thank you for the invitation. Although I will be unable to attend, I pray that the semi-centennial anniversary of the Grand Chapter may be the particular bright occasion of its existence up to the present time. The Royal Grand Chapter (that's reversed, but still true) has done good, true and perfect work on every course of stone in the building of the last half of the nineteenth century—work that will endure to the good of humanity to the latest generations; and may the future years be replete with still grander and more glorious achievements.

With high regard, I remain,

Fraternally yours in all courtesy,

JAS. H. THOMAS.

Grimsby, Ont., October 22, 1900.

Gil. W. Barnard, Esq.,
Grand Sec. Chapter, Illinois, U. S.

My Dear Sir and M. E. Comp.: I have delayed replying to your kind invitation to attend your semi-centennial anniversary in the hopes I could arrange to be present to acknowledge the many kind considerations of the Grand Chapter towards myself, and regret that my business engagements will prevent my being with you. Kindly express my fraternal greetings to the companions, and, wishing you may have a profitable and enjoyable meeting,

I am, fraternally yours,

WM. FORBES,
Your Rep. at G. C. of Canada.

San Francisco, Cal., September 26, 1900.

Gil. W. Barnard, Esq.,
Chicago, Ill.

R. E. Companion: I am this morning in receipt of your kind invitation to be present on 25th and 26th October next and participate in the exercises attending the semi-centennial anniversary of the Grand Chapter of Illinois, and while I sincerely regret my enforced absence on that occasion, I heartily thank you for remembering me. I shall miss the shaking of

your Royal hand, and also the visit with your Grand High Priest, Nathaniel Bowditch, whose acquaintance I made when he was in this city. My very kind regards to him, please, and assure him of my regrets in not being able to meet and greet him on the occasion alluded to.

With thanks for your kindness, I am

Yours fraternally,

FRANKLIN H. DAY.

Portland, September 28, 1900.

Gil. W. Barnard, Gr. Sec.

Dear Companion: It would give me great pleasure to be present at your semi-centennial if it were possible, but my official duties keep me at home.

I can only wish you a happy reunion and wonder, fifty years having brought you from tenth to third in membership, what you will be when the centennial comes around. I fancy that I see, thrust into the circle, the mighty foot of the Giant who is coming.

Yours faithfully,

STEPHEN BERRY,
Grand Secretary.

Coldwater, October 1, 1900.

Gil. W. Barnard, Grand Secretary,
Chicago, Ill.

My Dear Companion: Please accept thanks for the invitation to the semi-centennial of your Grand Chapter on October 25 and 26. I should be very glad to be with you on that occasion, but fear that other duties will prevent.

I hope the occasion may be all that your fondest anticipations can picture and that the next half century of your Grand Chapter may prove as successful as the one now closing, and that Gil. Barnard may be at the centennial celebration to report such fact.

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

J. S. CONOVER,
Grand Secretary.

Helena, Montana, October 2, 1900.

Gil. W. Barnard, Esq.,
Grand Secretary Grand Chapter R. A. M. of Illinois,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Sir and R. E. Companion: I am in receipt of your kind invitation to attend the semi-centennial anniversary of your Grand Chapter on the 25th of October instant, but see no likelihood of being able to be present personally. The recent meetings of our Grand bodies have left on hand the pressing work of preparing the minutes and seeing our proceedings through the press.

Our newly elected Grand High Priest, W. E. Chamberlain, is now at

the east in attendance at General Grand Chapter, and not unlikely you may see him going or returning.

Our earliest record of your Grand Chapter is that of 1857, when Edward M. M. Clarke was Grand High Priest and Harmon G. Reynolds, Grand Secretary. You then had some thirty odd chapters and some over 1,200 members. Only one chapter had a membership of more than 100. Your growth since to 183 chapters and over 17,000 members is something of which you may well be proud.

Montana just passed her eleventh annual convocation with sixteen chartered chapters, sends warm congratulations to her elder sister on what she has achieved, and wishes her greater prosperity and usefulness in the years to come.

Very truly,

CORNELIUS HEDGES,
Grand Secretary.

Washington, October 3, 1900.

Comp. Nathaniel Bowditch,
Grand High Priest of Illinois.

Most Excellent Companion: Your kind invitation to be present on the occasion of the "semi-centennial anniversary" of the Grand Chapter of Illinois, to be held at the City of Chicago on the 25th and 26th days of this month, has been received, and I regret very much that it will not be possible for me to be present on the occasion referred to. I must therefore content myself by thanking you for the invitation and expressing to your Grand Chapter my best wishes for future success, and a very enjoyable and successful meeting.

Truly yours,

NOBLE D. LARNER,
Grand Representative of Grand Chapter of Illinois.

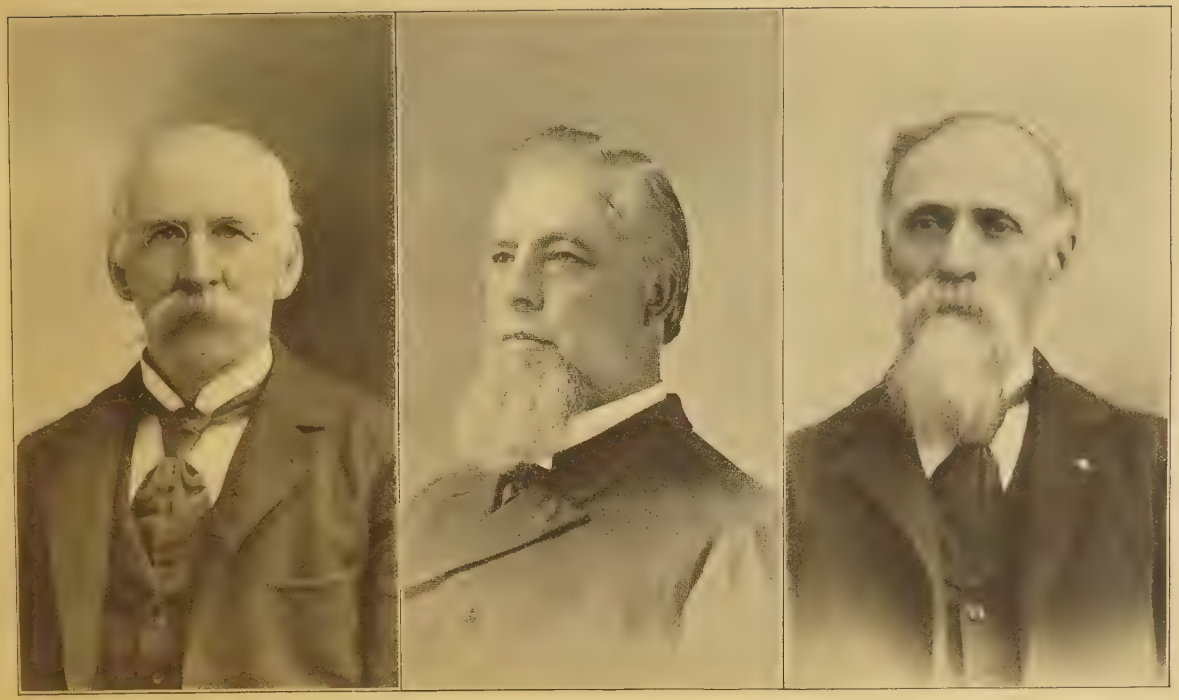
Cleveland, Ohio, October 8, 1900.

Gil. W. Barnard,
Gr. Sec. Grand Chapter of Illinois,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir and Ex. Comp., and My Very Dear Old Friend: I am in receipt of invitation to attend the semi-centennial of the Grand Chapter of Illinois on the 25th and 26th instants, but regret to say that other engagements will prevent my accepting your hospitality on that occasion. It is now more than six years since I visited your city, where I was always so royally received and where I would now be sure to meet many of my friends of long ago, whom I remember with affection and esteem. Many have gone to their long home, but there still remains some of the old line, for instance, Egan, and a few others—his contemporaries. But, as time rolls on, we are left more and more alone, and remember with greater affection those who survive. Remember me to all, and may it be a pleasant and profitable reunion and mingling of the past and present.

Fraternally yours,

BRENTON D. BABCOCK, P. G. H. P.



MARCUS M. LORD. MONROE C. CRAWFORD. ALFRED M. WERNER. (Deceased.)

Sheriff's Office, Bath, Me.

Gil. W. Barnard, Esq.,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Companion: Your fraternal remembrance in the way of an invitation to participate in the exercises of the semi-centennial anniversary of the Grand Chapter of Illinois has been received, and I have waited before acknowledging its receipt to see if I could not attend and share in the good time you are so sure to have; but as things look now I think I will be obliged to deny myself the satisfaction of meeting such a goodly lot of good fellows of whom I have heard and scarcely ever seen. I can only say the loss is my own, and a great loss indeed it is. I am very much honored in being your Representative near our own Grand Chapter, and have looked "lo these many years" to have an opportunity to shake hands with some Companion of your royal body, but so far have not succeeded, but I am "still hoping" and really wish with all my heart I could improve this present opportunity to do so. I trust you will bear my regrets to M. E. Comp. Bowditch, with my most fraternal greeting also to the other members of your good body, not for a moment forgetting your own good self.

With many thanks for your kind remembrance, and hoping soon to see you, I am, with sincere respect and esteem,

Yours always, truly and fraternally,
JOHN W. BALLOU,
Gr. Representative of the Gr. Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois,
Near the Gr. Chap. of Maine.

October 9th, A. D. 1900.

Des Moines, Iowa, October 11, 1900.

Gil. W. Barnard, Grand Sec'y,
Chicago.

Dear Companion: I beg to acknowledge receipt of an invitation to attend semi-centennial anniversary exercises of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois. It would afford me great pleasure to be with you upon so auspicious an occasion, but on account of meeting of our Grand bodies in my city that week and the week preceding, it will be impossible to leave here. It is with great regret therefore that I shall be obliged to deprive myself of so great a pleasure as that of being in Chicago the 25th and 26th.

Very truly and fraternally,
FREDERICK W. CRAIG,
G. G. M. 3rd V. U. S. and P. G. H. P. of Iowa.

October 11, 1900.

Gil. W. Barnard, Esq.,
Chicago, Ill.

My Dear Sir and Companion: I am in receipt of your courteous invitation for your semi-centennial on the 25th and 26th of this month. I

only regret that other engagements will make it impossible for me to be present on this interesting occasion. I trust that you may have a good time, and that the next fifty years may be relatively as prosperous as the fifty years just closed.

Very truly and fraternally,

B. G. WITT,
General Grand P. S.

Baltimore, October 12, 1900.

Gil. W. Barnard, Esq.,
Grand Secretary Illinois.

Dear Companion: The invitations for our Grand Officers to your semi-centennial came duly to hand and distributed; also one for myself, for which please accept my thanks and regrets that I cannot be present on the occasion.

Fraternally yours,
GEORGE L. McCAHAN,
P. Gen. G. H. P.

Sydney, Cape Breton, October 11, 1900.

Nathaniel Bowditch, Esq.,
Grand High Priest, Grand Chapter of Illinois.

Dear Sir and M. E. Companion: I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your kind invitation "to be present and participate in the exercises attending the semi-centennial anniversary to be held at the city of Chicago," etc.

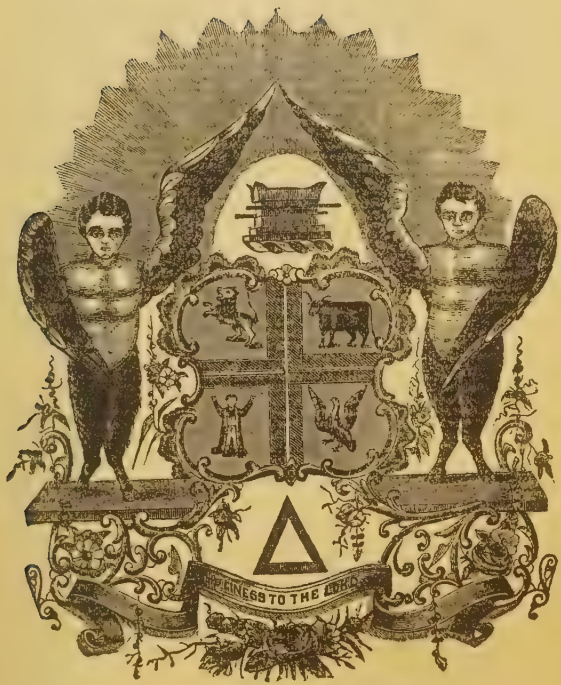
I thank you most heartily for remembering your Companions down by the sea. I assure you it would afford me the greatest pleasure to be with you. I would like to witness your jubilee celebration, to meet and shake hands with my companions of Illinois and to visit your great and famous city. I regret that various circumstances will prevent my doing myself the pleasure and high honor of being present on that interesting occasion.

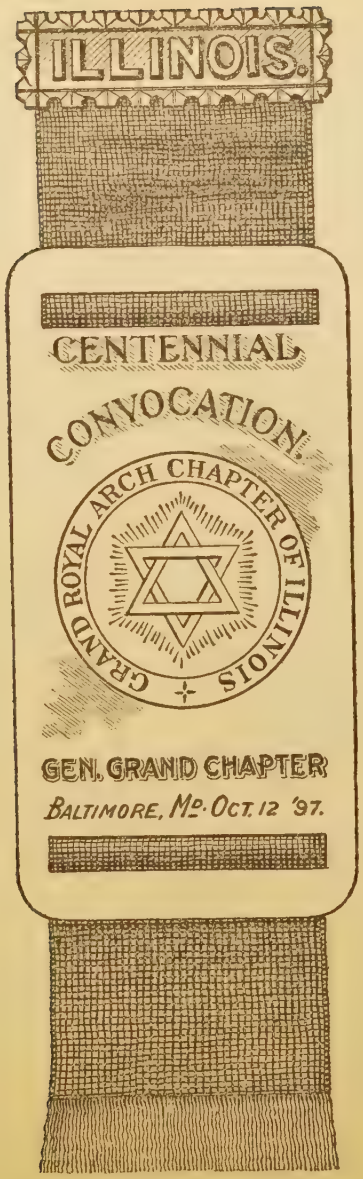
Permit me to extend to the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois most cordial and fraternal greetings from the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland. I earnestly hope you will have a large and representative gathering, and I have no doubt the Royal Craft in your State will be strengthened and cemented as a consequence of your intercourse with each other.

Kindly tell your Companions that should any of them ever visit this part of the world I would be delighted to bid them welcome.

With warmest greetings to yourself and your Grand Chapter,

I remain, fraternally yours,
A. G. McLEAN,
Grand High Priest.


HOLINESS TO THE LORD


ILLINOIS.
CENTENNIAL
CONVOCATION.
GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF ILLINOIS
GEN. GRAND CHAPTER
BALTIMORE, MD. OCT. 12 '97.

JUN
1965
JUN
1963